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APRIL 24 - 30, 2014

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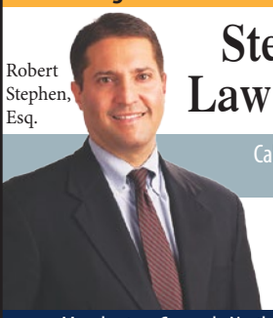
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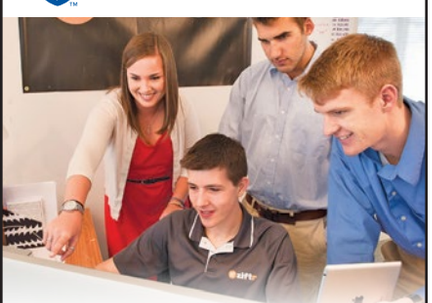
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Spirit of place



At no time previously in human history have more people been moving around the globe than at present. Even the most rudimentary of survey instruments will verify that statement. When is the last time you flew in a plane with any empty seats? Or have you tried to drive Interstate 95 or Route 3 to or from Boston at rush hour? The fact is, we are a people on the move, whether commuting to and from work or travelling on business or pleasure to heretofore "exotic" places.

While in New York City last weekend, I received a text message from our daughter on a business trip in Thailand. We exchanged a couple of short messages, each travelling back and forth in a matter of seconds, yet ricocheting off satellites with almost the speed of light in a form of communication unthinkable but a few years ago.

Despite this unprecedented mobility and instantaneous messaging, we cannot really ignore our roots: those lived experiences in a given place that seep into our character and give distinction to our personalities. Winemakers call this *terroir*, which literally means "sense of place" or "spirit of place." It is that characteristic of a wine that derives precisely from the soil and microclimate in which the vine produces its fruit.

When I was very young, I helped my grandmother plant new hydrangea bushes. We carefully dug holes to the right depth, but before setting the plant, she tossed in a handful of rusty nails and screws, then filling in the soil around the roots. I was puzzled. "Why did you do that?" I asked. She explained that the plant would take in the iron from the scrap metal and that would determine the color of the flowers on the bush.

A quote attributed to Byron says it succinctly: "A cask always carries a hint of the first wine it bore."

Although not natives of New Hampshire — fewer than ⅓ of current residents are — many like me have become "cask conditioned" by the spirit of this place. Its love of the natural environment, its paradoxical reconciliation of fierce individualism and liberty on the one hand and sense of community on the other, and its distinctive national reputation for political engagement: these all seep into our character and become our *terroir*.

As we move now into the primary season, we might reflect on some of those distinctive characteristics of this place: *informed engagement* in the process. We owe it to ourselves.

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the Hippo
APRIL 24 - 30, 2014
VOL 14 NO 17

News and culture weekly serving Metro southern New Hampshire
Published every Thursday
(1st copy free; 2nd $1).
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ON THE COVER
14 50 FAVORITE RESTAURANTS Hippo readers voted for them, and now here's a list of the Top 50 restaurants in southern New Hampshire, along with some of their tastiest food and drink items.



Also on the cover, the Hippo de Mayo Taco Tour is coming back to Manchester! More than 40 downtown restaurants are participating this year, so there will be plenty of $2 tacos to choose from — and vote for! (p. 40 & 46)
And if you're looking for something for the kids (or the dogs) to do, check out the pet parade coming to Laconia's WOW Trail (p. 36).

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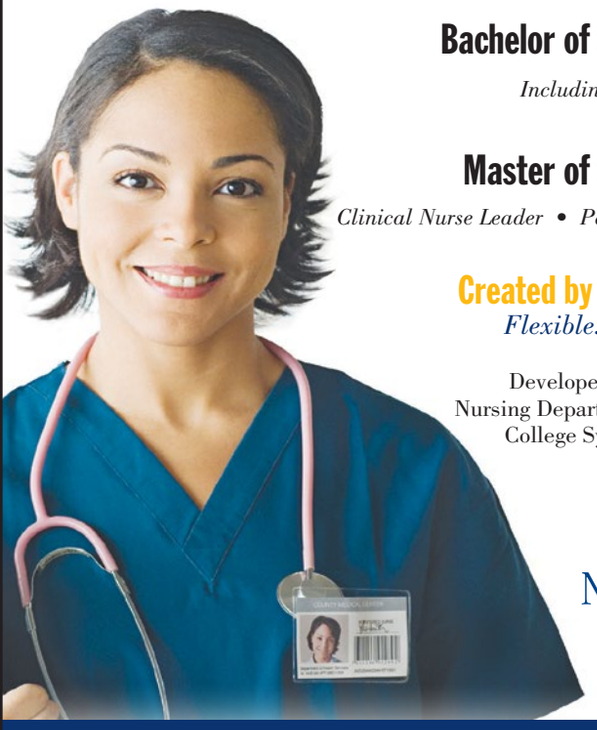
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NEWS & NOTES



Cell phone ban

State senators passed a bill that would ban the use of hand-held cellphones while driving, NHPR reported. A voice vote sent the bill back to the House so it can vote on an amendment that would add the requirement to educate the public about the new law. Should Gov. Maggie Hassan sign the bill, drivers would still be allowed to use hands-free devices while driving, and hand-held phones in cases of emergency, or if they pull over and stop.

Capital punishment stays

The bill that would have outlawed capital punishment in the Granite State garnered passionate debate on the Senate floor, but the 12-12 Senate vote last week wasn't enough to pass it on to Gov. Maggie Hassan.

The vote was split mostly on party lines, with only two Republicans voting in favor of the repeal. It was tabled instead of killed, so it could be revisited before the end of the session, WMUR reported.

The vote was the closest death penalty repeal measure since 2000. Then, it passed both chambers, but Gov. Jeanne Shaheen vetoed the measure.

According to WMUR, the state has not executed anyone since 1939, when Howard Long was hanged after he was convicted of molesting and brutally murdering a 10-year-old boy.

Currently, Michael Addison remains on death row, and his sentencing was a primary focus for those who spoke in support of the repeal. They stated that his sentencing could have been the result of racial bias — while Addison received the death penalty, another defendant who was white received a life-in-prison sentence for a different homicide case. Had the repeal passed, it would have kept Addison on death row.

Repeal opponents stated that New Hampshire is strict about who receives the death penalty, and it is only reserved for the most heinous crimes.

A recent Gallup poll showed that 60 percent of Americans favor capital punishment for convicted murders. But more states have been passing repeals — six in the last seven years.

Tax credit controversy

The New Hampshire Supreme Court is considering whether an education tax law should be allowed. The law allows businesses to claim up to an 85 percent tax credit for donations made to private school scholarship organizations. Last year, a lower court ruled that because tax credits amount to public dollars, it is unconstitutional for the program to give scholarships to private schools. Last Wednesday both supporters and critics packed the courtroom to voice opinions about the law that encourages business owners to donate to scholarships that help pay for students to attend religious or non-religiously-backed private schools, the Concord Monitor reported. Critics say the tax credit could encourage students away from public universities, which takes tuition money away from the state, while supporters argue that private schools provide better education, and that the law encourages competition, which could result in public schools improvements. Gov. Maggie Hassan has spoken against the law.

Brushfire season

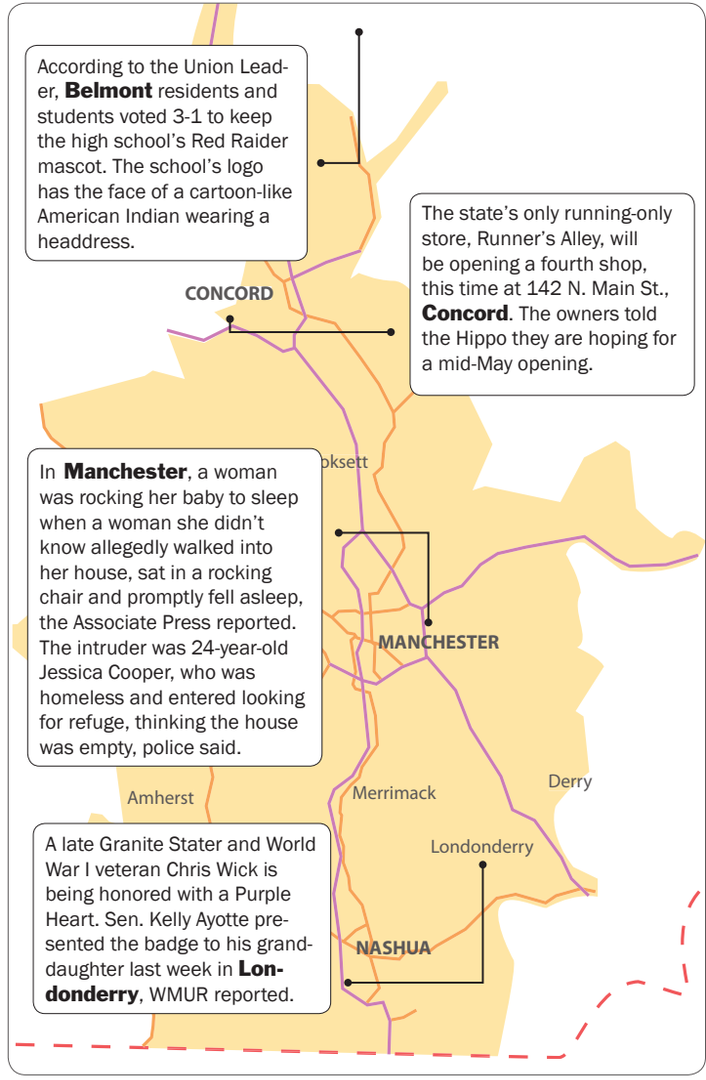
As temperatures heat up and dried grass and leaves are exposed, firefighters may have lots of work on their hands keeping brushfires at bay. Last week at least half a dozen brushfires ignited throughout central and southern New Hampshire and were exacerbated by heavy winds, according to NHPR. Though the top layer of soil is dry, wet land beneath is keeping the fires from becoming an even worse problem. One fire in Deering narrowly missed reaching a garage, fire officials said.

Polar Plunge death

There's tragedy amidst growing concern about the dangers of Granite Staters' participation in the Polar Plunge. The body of 32-year-old Aaron Hoyt has been found in Smith River after he, his fiance and a friend jumped off a rock at Profile Falls in Bristol, CBS reported. Hoyt, who served in the U.S. Army, did not resurface after the jump, and a helicopter was dispatched to help search for him, but the search was called off because water levels in Smith River rose to levels too dangerous for divers.

Reversed drug conviction

The New Hampshire Supreme Court reversed the drug conviction of a man who had been arrested on the grounds that the green hue of his tongue meant he had recently used marijuana, the Associated Press reported. The court ruled unanimously that Enfield officer Roy Holland turned his routine traffic stop into an unconstitutional search after he asked 18-year-old Hillman Blesdell-Moore to show him his tongue and then questioned him about whether a police dog might be able to sniff out drugs in the pickup truck. That resulted in Blesdell-Moore allegedly admitting that he had a couple ounces of marijuana and mushrooms in the truck, but the court ruled officers must use a stop for the intended purpose only.



Man electrocuted

An employee of Keene State College, 46-year-old Nate DeMond, was killed Saturday near the Keene State College Athletic Complex after being electrocuted by a downed powerline, WMUR reported. Firefighters and police crews found DeMond's body close to the powerline at around 2:30 p.m. The downed powerline was reportedly caused by a nearby brushfire. The crews were stalled at first because his body was too close to high voltage, according to a Keene Fire Department press release, but when they arrived he was already dead.

BEST WEEK

WALT HAVENSTEIN

Former defense contractor Walt Havenstein of Alton officially announced his GOP candidacy for governor last Wednesday, according to NHPR. During his announcement, Havenstein said his business experience would help the state become more economically stable than it has been with a Democrat in office. He focused on New Hampshire's business prospects and said he wants the state to be the best place for business in the Northeast. A WMUR Granite State Poll revealed that he is 93 percent unknown to the electorate, but his Republican opponent Andrew Hemingway isn't faring much better.

WORST WEEK

SKIERS

The state's final three ski areas that were still open for businesses closed for the season this week, the Associated Press reported. Loon Mountain Resort, Cannon Mountain and Bretton Woods stuck it out until mid April, while the state's 15 other areas shut down a couple weeks ago or before. Die-hard skiers and snowboarders who aren't ready to part with their gear for the season will be able to find snow at Mount Washington Tuckerman Ravine, but they'll have to hike up the largest mountain in the Northeast to get there.

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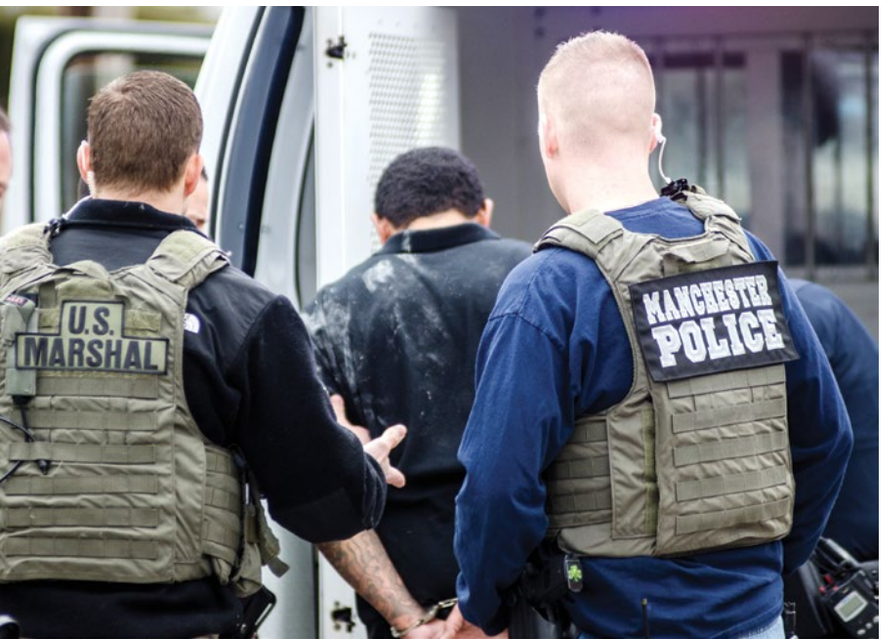
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To catch a fugitive

Manchester PD strengthens its U.S. Marshal ties



The Manchester Police and the U.S. Marshals team up to catch a fugitive. Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Hastings.

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

By the second week of April, the Manchester Police Department had had a detective working as a full-time member of the New Hampshire U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force for less than a month. In that time period, the Marshals made 13 fugitive arrests with ties to the city.

For years, the U.S. Marshals have asked the Manchester PD to assign a full-time detective, but budget cuts and manpower issues prevented it.

"We were in a position to do it now," said Deputy U.S. Marshal Jeffrey White. "We were able to sell it on what they will get in return — we are going to be after a lot of Manchester fugitives."

For Officer Daniel Doherty, accepting his new assignment on the task force was a 100-percent no-brainer, he said. The partnership means his department has access to extra manpower, and it can benefit from the technology the U.S. Marshals have.

The partnership is a win for both groups, according to U.S. Marshal David Cargill Jr. and Manchester Police Chief David Mara. The Manchester police possess inside knowledge of the lay of the city, as well as prior investigative work. The U.S. Marshals offer Manchester about five extra officers, who come in to support local police on fugitive cases. Cargill said the Queen City is a "hotbed" for crime.

"Being the largest city in the state, because of population, you have a large amount of people, so you're going to have a larger amount of crime. So it does tend to produce a lot of warrants," he said.

Manchester has a high number of warrants issued due to people committing crimes or not showing up to court — and while they are out there and have a warrant, they are most likely committing more crimes, Mara said. He doesn't think of the partnership as losing a man on his force.

"Instead of taking officers from regular duties, now we have the resources of the federal agency," Mara said. "So it's definitely advantageous to getting [fugitives] off the street."

As a member of the task force, Doherty is also able to work under the regulations of the U.S. Marshals. All task force members have national jurisdiction, which means they can cross state borders to continue their investigations and catch fugitives who flee the state. And border crossing happens frequently. The more serious the crime committed, the more likely a criminal will try not to be arrested.

"I wouldn't say every case results in them fleeing [that] state, but in a lot of cases when an offender knows they are wanted or wanted for questioning they will flee our jurisdiction or the state hoping we will just say, 'Oh he's gone. We're done with it,"' Doherty said.

The fact that New England states are so close together is a blessing and a curse because it's very easy for fugitives to cross state lines, but it also makes it easier for the U.S. Marshals, White said.

U.S. Marshals have been a presence in New Hampshire since 1789, but the Joint Fugitive Task Force, for which police at the town, city and county level take on the roles of U.S. Marshals, wasn't established until 2002. It was formed as an effort to help clear the state's backlog of active warrants and fugitives.

Since the task force's inception there have been more than 5,500 arrests. In the beginning, the U.S. Marshals had task force partnerships with Stratford County and the Greenfield Police. Now it has ties to all 10 counties. Cargill said the size of the U.S. Marshals presence is strong compared with the size of the state.

"We have full-time members and we also have part-time, ad-hoc members," he said. "There's a good portion of police chiefs who are ad hoc members. So if we get a really bad case from a local warrant, there's a good chance someone there is on our task force. They will jump on with us for a week at a time, or for the case."

They like to target New Hampshire's most violent offenders — the big ones that truly affect the state's quality of life. That includes people who commit assault, armed robbery, rape, drug crimes and murder. But they also go after anyone they have the ability to capture.

"We focus on the more violent ones … but we would go after someone who was wanted for a bad check of 50 dollars, and we would arrest them," Cargill said. "We do not discriminate."

Many of the fugitives aren't currently wanted for a violent crime, but their history of violence draws the U.S. Marshals to them, as was the case with recent fugitive David Carey of Manchester, who was arrested in Pembroke.

"He did not have the most glamorous crime. He was wanted for a driver offense and it was a parole violation, but his underlying criminal history was pretty serious, so we chose to feature him as fugitive of the week," said White. "Within two hours of featuring him we received a tip and had him in handcuffs by noontime."

When U.S. Marshals get cases assigned to them, they do extensive research and paperwork. They gather photos and possible addresses at which to look for criminals. They interview people connected to fugitives and sometimes build leads by pursuing tips called in or emailed by anonymous citizens.

"When we come to town to work warrants we're showing up with a minimum of five people," Cargill said.

The Manchester task force member is funded by the Manchester Police Department, not the U.S. Marshals, and it was up to the city office to choose the right detective for the jobs.

Usually, seasoned veterans with a few years under their belt make better task force members than people fresh out of the academy, Cargill said.

Doherty is a sixth-year officer who in March 2012 was shot five times by Miles Webster. By early March 2013 Doherty was back on the beat after multiple surgeries and a titanium rod implanted in his left leg. Mara also has experience working in street crime, patrol, and the city's drug unit.

"He is tenacious when he gets going on something," Mara said. "He enjoys his work, and that's the type of thing you need. He enjoys doing the research. … Bottom line why I put him in there, he's a very good detective."



Officer Dan Doherty is the New Hampshire U.S. Marshals newest task force member. Courtesy photo.

Urban pond protectors

Volunteers clean up Manchester's watersheds



Urban ponds sometimes fall prey to illegal tire dumping. Courtesy photo.

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

What do urban ponds offer cities?

There are the obvious recreational benefits — opportunities for city dwellers to exercise, socialize, pursue hobbies and enjoy a nature quick-fix.

But urban watersheds like Dorrs Pond, Nutts Pond and McQuesten Brook in Manchester are also constantly working as funnels, collecting water that runs off the city's impervious surfaces and naturally filtering it before it heads to the Merrimack River.

"If we have a good watershed that isn't covered in junk, we're more likely to have a well-functioning area for everyone," said Michele L. Tremblay, president of the New Hampshire Rivers Council Board of Directors.

To protect the city's vital watersheds, in the coming months Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program, New Hampshire Rivers Council and other sponsors and volunteers will head out to the ponds to tackle post-thaw trash accumulation.

In spring, long-hidden trash resurfaces and recreational use of the areas hasn't yet picked up, so it's the perfect time to tackle the trash, said Jen Drociak, co-coordinator for Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program.

Each year volunteers haul away more and more bags of trash — but it's not because there's more dumping. Instead, there's been an increase in manpower. Last year, 300 people joined the effort. Since its conception 13 years ago, 697 volunteers have spent 2,394 hours collecting 1,899 bags of trash — and that doesn't include items that have been illegally dumped, like shopping carts and tires.

Most of the trash isn't intentional dumping, Drociak said. The ponds tend to be in commercial areas of the city, and trash gets blown away from dumpsters before it settles at the water. Common items include cigarette butts, plastic straws, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, food wrappers and plastic bags.

> "Perhaps they find [dumping] an easy way out of paying or driving to the transfer station."
>
> JEN DROCIAK

But some trash — the big stuff — is obviously illegally dumped. The group has fished out car windshields and engines, mattresses, an exercise bike, and a couple microwave ovens, to name a few items.

Drociak said she can't be sure what entices people to dump their stuff, but "some of these areas are secluded," she said. "Maybe they are not aware of the city's transfer station and how to properly relinquish their waste. Perhaps they find it an easy way out of paying or driving to the transfer station."

The cleanups take place on weekend mornings and last from three to four hours. Organizers like to keep them fun for the kids. Because there's always the potential to find

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Volunteers pull an abandoned shopping cart from a Manchester pond during a spring cleanup. Courtesy photo.

something really weird, they hold a contest where volunteers get a prize for finding the most unusual piece of trash.

In past years, the honor has gone to a bronze Buddha statue, a homemade wicca handbook, a large stuffed unicorn, a vending machine and a safe.

"Unfortunately, there was nothing in it," Drociak said.

The Urban Ponds Restoration Program began in 2000 as part of a Supplemental Environmental Projects Plan, an agreement between the City of Manchester, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It aimed to address problems created by the city's combined sewer system. Manchester's stormwater and wastewater were collected in the same system. At times of heavy water flow, some water would bypass the wastewater treatment system, which was not in compliance with federal standards.

The program stopped receiving funding in 2005, but the cleanups continue.

"Myself and another individual have been coordinating the program largely as volunteer," Drociak said, "The work still needs to be done."

According to Tremblay, who is heading a cleanup at McQuesten Brook, each year people seem to become more conscientious about putting their trash in the right places. But the volume of trash can depend on any number of circumstances — for instance, snow.

"This will be an interesting year because when plows make huge mounds of snow a lot of trash tends to go with it. When snow melts, a lot is left behind," Tremblay said.

Developments around the water matter too. In 2009, conservationists removed a dam that had been there since the early 1900s, in order to allow the water to flow freely. That resulted in lots of newly exposed trash that had been building up for years. And while the Manchester Student Conservation Association is sponsoring a cleanup at Dorrs Pond this spring, the Urban Ponds Restoration Program hasn't hosted a cleanup since 2004 because upgrades to the parks trail system have encouraged visitors to keep it clean and well-maintained.

At Nutts Pond, cleanup crews used to dig up plenty of shopping carts. In 2012, they found a record 14 abandoned shopping cards. But in 2013 there were none. That's because both Shaw's and Stop & Shop closed, Drociak said.

This year cleanups are being held from April 26 to June 13. Organizers are looking for as many volunteers as possible.

"We like to get started promptly at 9," Drociak said. "We'll have gloves and trash bags available. And we try to make it fun."

Spring 2014 pond and park clean-up events:

April 26: Black Brook / Blodget Park, 9-11 a.m. Meet in the parking lot.
May 3: Stevens Pond / Stevens Pond Park, 9-11 a.m. Meet at the informational kiosk.
May 3: Crystal Lake, sponsored by the Crystal Lake Preservation Association, 9 a.m. - noon. Meet at information kiosk at beach.
May 10: Nutts Pond / Precourt Park, 9 a.m. - noon. Meet at the information kiosk.
May 18: Dorrs Pond / Livingston Park, sponsored by the Manchester Student Conservation Association, 9 a.m. - noon. Meet at the informational kiosk in parking lot.
June 13: McQuesten Brook, sponsored by the New Hampshire Rivers Council, 8 am. - noon. Meet at the information kiosk at Wolfe Park.

Organizers advise volunteers to meet no later than 8:50 a.m. for a 9 a.m. start. Trash bags and latex gloves will be provided, but dress for the weather. If available, wear knee-high rubber boots or hip waders.

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Flying high

Aviation Museum of New Hampshire gets new leader

Veteran art curator Jessica Pappathan doesn't have an aviation background, but as the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire's new executive director, she plans to learn a lot about the state's ties to the skies. She's got big plans for making the museum a go-to destination for locals and tourists.

Q: ***How was your first week?***

It's been a lot of fun. I really enjoyed getting to know the staff and just sort of meeting everybody.

What is your curation background?

I interned with the Currier [Museum of Art in Manchester] and I worked with the Currier for a couple years. From there I went on to Saint Anselm and worked as an assistant curator. I've also worked with Historic New England as a guide giving tours of old homes. Most recently, I worked with McGowan Fine Art in Concord, which is a commercial art gallery, and I have a bachelor's in history and an M.S. in arts administration.

Do you expect working at an aviation museum to be different from your past jobs?

I do, because my background is in art. I'm going from art to aviation, but I'm excited ... to learn from our members and our visitors. … I'm surrounded by so many passionate and enthusiastic people. And I'm really excited to share this history. ... I've always had a love for New Hampshire history, whether it's art, historical houses or aviation. I have a particular interest in the history of this area, being from New Hampshire.

What are you learning about aviation?

The coolest thing I've learned? I would say, you know, I love listening to people's stories, so for me so far the coolest thing has really been hearing everyone's background. I've met so many interesting people, whether they are pilots or have experience in the war. I expect every day will probably bring something new.

Does the state have a big aviation culture?

There's a lot of interest in ... New Hampshire. Something I wanted to mention is our aviation education program. We work to engage high school juniors and seniors, and attract them to the fields of aviation.



Jessica Pappathan

Do you remember the first time you flew?

I was probably about 7 years old and I loved it. I loved being up above the clouds. My first time was probably on a trip to Disney World.

What are your favorite exhibits?

The Doodle Bug is the first bi-plane in New Hampshire. It was built in 1929 and the wings were actually separated from the plane. We were able to retrieve the wings by donation. So now the wings are not actually on the plane, but [rebuilding it] is something we would love to do. We also have three flight simulators ... [and] an experimental home-built aircraft that was started about 50 years ago somewhere in northern New Hampshire. ... One of our members purchased it and he's actually continuing to work on it. He had it inspected, and it should be ready to fly.

What kinds of events are coming up?

We have the Grenier Fields homecoming event coming up on July 19. Grenier Field is where the majority of the aircrafts that went to the European theater during World War II were based. All the aircrafts came from here. Basically in the 1940s the Manchester airport shut down and the U.S. transformed this area into an air force base.

What are your goals for the museum?

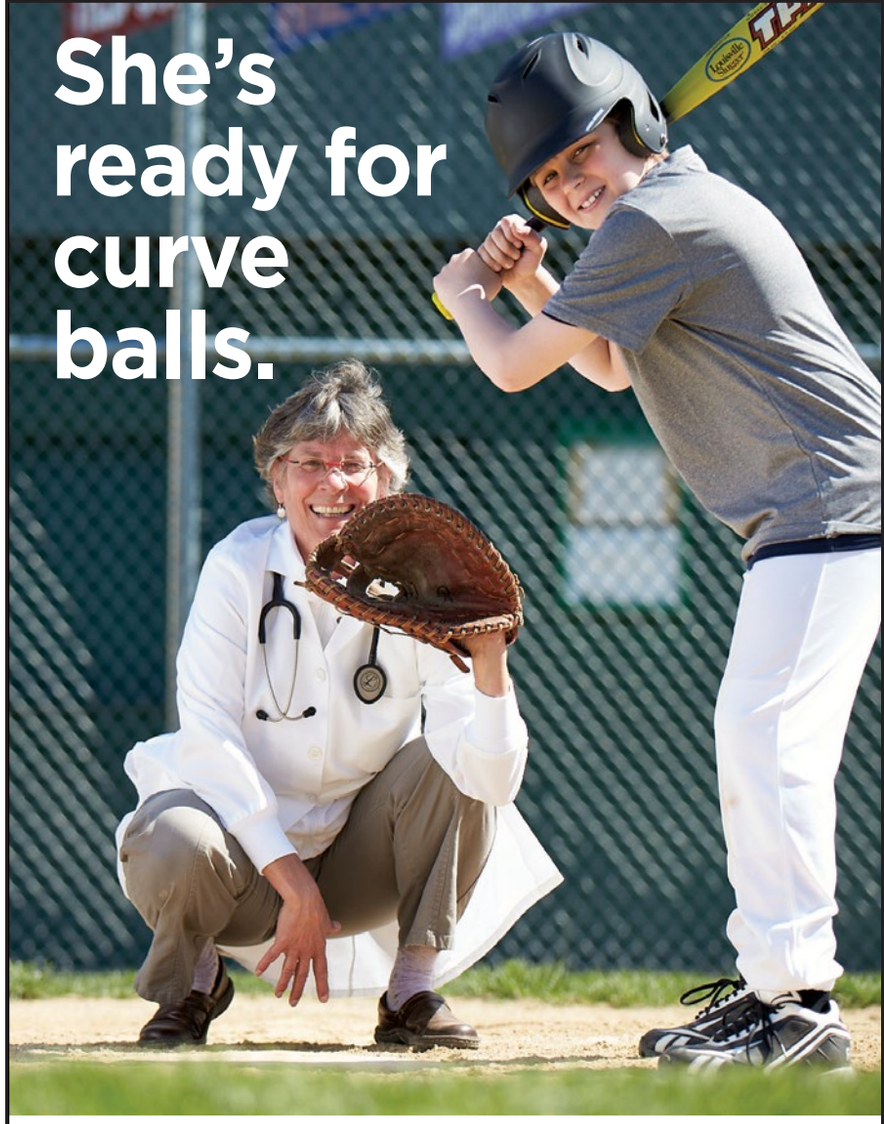
I'd love to attract more young people. ... And also, as a mother of a 4-year-old, I really hope to show people what a great family place this is. ... We want to be a regular attraction for locals but also a destination for visitors. We'd also like to attract more volunteers here. Whether it's giving tours or working the bookshop, we have a number of things we'd love help with.

Do you think you'll take piloting lessons?

It's been mentioned a couple times since I started. I have a feeling I'll end up being talked into it. What better way to learn than by doing? — *Rebecca Fishow*

Five favorites

Favorite book: *To Kill a Mockingbird*
Favorite type of music: I'm going to say eclectic. I have a mix. But I'm a fan of '80s music, being born in the '80s.
Favorite food: Italian. I like Italian.
Favorite movie: I'm going to say *Big Fish*. Oh wait, you know what, *Edward Scissorhands*. I love *Edwards Scissorhands*.
Favorite thing about NH: I love that we have access to mountains, beaches, cities, all in one state. And we have great cultural facilities.



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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Good news for college students

All about higher education, QOL is pleased to see that New Hampshire's seven community colleges will cut tuition by 5 percent next year, as reported by NHPR. For in-state students taking a 12-credit course load, that means a reduction of about $200, with the annual cost going from about $5,000 to $4,800. Lowering the costs, Chancellor Ross Gittell told NHPR, is especially critical because there are many community college students who are looking to eventually move on to four-year schools, i.e., more expensive schools, afterward.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *Gittell couldn't recall another time that the Board of Trustees ever voted to reduce tuition.*

Parking fee hikes

The Aldermen's Committee on Accounts has voted to formally enroll parking fee hikes in downtown Manchester, the final approval needed to extend the downtown metered parking zone by two blocks to the north, south and east, as reported by the Union Leader. The standard 75-cents per hour charge will apply to the entire area; currently, there are some meters that cost just 50 cents an hour. Another ordinance will also raise the cost of monthly parking permits at the Millyard, at surface lots and at the Victory Garage.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *QOL hates driving downtown anyway. Anyone for more bike lanes?*

Eat your veggies

Like a concerned parent, the Centers for Disease Control and prevention is telling New Hampshire to eat its fruits and vegetables. A new study reveals adults in the state are only chowing down on 1.8 servings of vegetables per day, the Associated Press reported. Thirty percent of adults and 37 percent of adolescents reported eating fruits less than once a day in 2013, but we are eating slightly more vegetables — "only" 18 percent of adults and 32 percent of adolescents eat vegetables less than once a day. We beat the national average of 1.6 servings a day, but the state doesn't have as many "healthier food" retailers compared with the national average.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *Does ketchup still count as a veggie? What about potatoes? QOL is craving some fries.*

Waste not, want not?

What to do about overcrowded library bookshelves? Librarians at University of New Hampshire's Dimond Library solved the problem by tossing thousands of books into a nearby recycling bin. They ditched books on a variety of subjects — 36,000 in all — in order to make room for new bio-science and other collections, WMUR reported. A group of students holding a charity drive asked why they couldn't have some of the discarded copies, but librarians stated that giving away out-of-date books is not appropriate, according to WMUR.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *The books that were thrown away had reportedly not been checked out in 20 years.*

QOL score: 70
Net change: -2
QOL this week: 68

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippopress.com.





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Trouble Bruin in playoffs



It's interesting how winning changes everything. Especially after a team wins a title and public perception says another is on the way.

That is the case with your Boston Bruins, who started the Stanley Cup playoffs on Friday as the best and, I suspect, most deeply loved team by its fans in Boston. True, the Red Sox are coming off winning the World Series and the Patriots as always are a top-tier team. But after collecting a league-best 117 points, the Bruins have the chance to be dominant and the others don't.

Guess that puts the pressure on them, and it showed in Friday's 2-1 loss to Detroit, but hey, good teams thrive on pressure and it will be a MAJOR disappointment if they don't go deep in the playoffs again. And for the most demanding among us, that won't even be good enough, as they are on the Stanley Cup-or-bust float. All of which means, no matter how you slice it, it's a great time to be a Bruins fan, especially after they looked the part pummeling the Red Wings 4-1 to even the series at one apiece on Sunday.

But, since I have a loooong memory, what I find more remarkable than the construction of the team is how **Jeremy Jacobs** has morphed into the pillar of team ownership. It's an amazing comeback really, because less than a decade ago that same Jeremy Jacobs was reviled by Bruins fans for being cheap, unwilling to pay for premium talent as he cynically went about spending just enough to go a couple of rounds in the playoffs to keep the rabid Bruins faithful coming back. And he had the guile of **Harry Sinden** to keep it going on the cheap, until he lost his fastball. No one remembers, I guess, **Ray Bourque** winning his lone Stanley Cup after basically begging management to be sent to Colorado because he knew he wasn't gonna get it here with the way things were being run.

Now magically, with public memories shorter than the late **Mickey Rooney**, he's looked on as a great owner, where folks in Buffalo are actually dreaming, praying, even begging him to step up and buy the Bills in the wake of the death of their owner **Ralph Wilson**. Of course their perspective is a bit different in that the choices are (a) buying into the latest **Donald Trump** ego-induced publicity ploy/fantasy that he's gonna buy the team — that's as believable as his phony presidential campaign tease, (b) getting stuck with an out-of-towner saying he'll keep the team in Buffalo but really waiting until the chance arrives to take them to L.A., or (c) a local buyer, ANY local buyer surfaces to keep them there.

My only point is, it's amazing how things change, which didn't happen because Jacobs saw the errors of his ways. Instead, it happened for three reasons. First, a new collective bargaining agreement after the lockout of 2004-05 forced every team to basically spend the same on players. Second, Bruins fans, to their credit, put their collective foot down and said we're not going to take this crap anymore and stopped going to games in the dying days of the **Mike O'Connell**/Sinden regime. That got Jacob's attention. Third, a management overhaul followed where son **Charley** moved here to run the Garden and put the duo of **Cam Neely** and **Peter Chiarelli** in charge of the team. That, the senior Jacobs should get credit for, because he picked them and that was the game-changer in restoring the Bruins' mojo.

So with that out of the way, what's not to like? OK, they have a tendency to relax at times, which explains why they needed the miracle comeback to get by Toronto last year, and perhaps in Game 1 vs. Detroit as well. But they remediated that on Sunday and most expect it to continue as the series unfolds. But behind that, I like two things about how Neely and Chiarelli put the team together. They are a big, tough, physical team in the mold of how Neely himself played that makes teams earn it, and they're willing to make bold moves.

Like last summer's **Tyler Seguin** trade. Those against it point to his fourth-best-in-the-NHL 84 points scored away from **Claude Julien** to say it was wrong, especially when **David Kejci**'s 19th-best 69 points led the Bruins. Throw the 80 and 76 points scored by alums **Phil Kessel** and **Joe Thornton** and it suggests they're anti-offense. And it's possible dealing the 23-year-old Seguin may backfire down the road, as it did for Vancouver when Sinden traded high-scoring **Barry Pederson** for Neely a generation ago. But Julien wanted two-way players and wasn't willing to let Seguin slide. So he went for **Loui Eriksson**, **Reilly Smith** and young'ns to give them what they wanted. The result, an NHL-best 117 points as Krejci (39), **Patrice Bergeron** (38), **Brad Marchand** (36) and **Jarome Iginla** had hockey's top four plus/minus ratings, while Seguin and Thornton are nowhere to be found in the Top 30. The brass said they'd be better with that trade and they were right.

They also made the right choice at goalie. When it was put up or let him walk time, they stuck with **Tuukka Rask** and let **Tim Thomas** go off to the planet in outer space he and **Glenn Beck** live on after wearing out his welcome despite his legendary 2011 performance. Finally, after a miss with **Dave Lewis**, they also picked a coach in Julien who has caught his share of flak and has delivered outstanding results over the last three years. All of which sets up a spring that could be pretty special and could have those folks in Buffalo begging even harder for the rejuvenated Jeremy Jacobs to buy their beloved football team.

As I said, winning does change everything.

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Monarchs start playoff run at the V on Friday night

The Big Story: It's the opening of the Calder Cup playoffs in town with the Monarchs Best of Five series with the Norfolk Admirals. Game 1 is at the world famous Verizon Wireless Arena on Friday with game time at 7 p.m. Game 2 of the Eastern Conference quarterfinal matchup follows on Saturday at the V, also at 7 p.m. The Ms then head out on the road for Game 3 on Wednesday, and if Games 4 and 5 are necessary they'll also be played in Norfolk next Friday and Saturday. And somebody might want to write a letter to the AHL brass or maybe their congresswomen, asking how is it possible that the team with the most points in the conference could play fewer games at home in the series than its eighth-place opponent.

Sports 101: Who has played in the most NBA playoff games?

Coming and Going: There is a new sheriff at the NHIAA, where Portsmouth High Principal **Jeff Collins** will replace the retiring **Pat Corbin** as director. A defensive lineman under **Bill Bowes** at UNH in the late 1980s and early '90s, Collins will assume his new role July 1.

Oye Vey! Award: It goes to Monarchs forward **Linden Vey** after being recalled to the L.A. Kings for the fifth time this season. The good news is it's just in time for the playoffs. The bad news is the Ms might not have their second-leading scorer in their quest to win their first Calder Cup.

Double Oye Vey! Award: In addition to the possible loss of Vey for the playoffs, the Monarchs are already without leading scorer **Brian O'Neill**, who was lost to the team for 6 to 8 weeks with a leg injury suffered 10 days ago.

Sports 101 Answer: Big Shot Bob, a.k.a. **Robert Horry**. His 244 playoff games are most in NBA history.

On This Date: April 24: **1978** - Angels' **Nolan Ryan** strikes out 15 (Mariners) for the 20th time. **1994 - David Robinson** scores a seventh best in history 71 points to win the scoring crown on the final day of the season. **Born: 1933 - Alan Eagleson**, 1970s hockey agent convicted of embezzling millions from a host of clients including **Bobby Orr**.

Sports Glossary

Glenn Beck: Right-wing political wag who was such a cretin even Fox News kicked him off their network. Alas, with America the land of opportunity, he's now making A LOT more money on his digital subscription show. As Russian comedian **Yakov Smirnoff** used to say, "America, what a country!"

Barry Pederson for Cam Neely: Pederson was a 100-point Bruins scorer twice, while also potting 40-plus goals twice. But in 1986 **Harry Sinden** stunned all by trading his top scorer for 21-year-old **Cam Neely**. The result was escalator down for Vancouver, as after scoring 29 goals, then 24, Barry never hit 20 again. For the Bs it was escalator up, as Neely scored 50 goals three times in becoming a Bruins all-timer. And if the career hadn't been derailed by a cheap-shot injury it would've been more. And oh yeah, Harry also got excellent blue-liner **Glenn Wesley** and a descendent playing today, as Sunday's star **Milan Lucic** was drafted with a pick that came in connection with a player traded for the players that came in the trade of Wesley seven years later.

The Numbers

3 – hits allowed by **Dario Vitagliano** helped Central get by Concord 3-2 as he struck out two batters, walked none and knocked in the game's first two runs with a first-inning triple.

6 – goals on the day for Memorial laxster **Bekka SanSouci** including the game-icing goal with 26 seconds left to give the Crusaders a 13-11 win over the Central girls, who got eight of their goals from **Sara Thompson** (5) and **Hailey Thompson** (3).

11 – combined goals by **Polly (want a) Carter** (6) and **Brynn Polgrean** (5) to lead the Derryfield School to a 16-3 rout of Plymouth in NHIAA lacrosse action.

12 – strikeouts by Derryfield's **Kyle Slevira** as he threw a three-hitter at Sunapee as the Cougars picked up their first win of the year with a 2-1 decision.

41 – consecutive wins for the Bedford lacrosse team after a 14-4 thumping of Merrimack when **Dan Colela** (5) and **(north) Dakota Clark** (3) combined for eight goals to lead the Bulldog assault.

391,473 – paying customers the Fisher Cats need to attract in 2014 to surpass the club's all-time attendance record set in 2009.



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50 Favorite Restaurants 2014

Hippo readers make their picks for the best places to dine



Call it a champagne problem: we in southern New Hampshire have too many great options for a good meal.

And when you know you're going to get a good meal from a handful of your favorite places, it's hard to break away and try something new. Sometimes it takes a recommendation — maybe a friend telling you about a to-die-for dessert or tweeting photos of a beautifully composed dish of food — to push us to explore a new spot.

Well, consider this 50 recommendations from your fellow Hippo readers.

Each year in our readers poll, we ask people to weigh in on their favorites and pick a "best restaurant overall." In March, we announced the winners of our Best of 2014 poll. (Go to hippopress.com, click on the current issue of the paper to get to our flipbook and then click on the calender icon on the bottom left side of the page to find the March 27 issue; the story starts on page 14). But, especially when it comes to food, it's always good to get a second helping.

The list here comes from those Best Restaurant Overall votes. And, as with every year, you'll see some familiar favorites as well as some new recommendations. Along the way, we'll also try to note which restaurants received other recognition in Hippo's Best of 2014 readers poll (look for "More 'best'"). Many of the places listed here also garnered "bests" in categories such as burgers, fine dining or breakfast.

A few notes about what you'll see here: Hours, menu listings and prices can change. Information listed here is based on the restaurants' websites and Facebook pages. Descriptions of the restaurants' cuisine are based on how they describe themselves. Sample dishes aren't necessarily examples of all dishes on the menu or all price points but are dishes worthy of note. Likewise, drinks mentioned in "in your glass" don't represent the totality of the restaurant's offerings but a glimpse at one type of beverage that might be available. Got allergies, picky eaters or a hankering for something specific? Call ahead to make sure what you want is still on the menu.

Make this list a guide to culinary adventure. Looking for something to do today for dinner, tomorrow for lunch or this weekend for breakfast? Let Hippo readers give you a few ideas.

1. Republic (1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com. Hours: The kitchen is open Sunday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Cocktails are available Sunday through Thursday until 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday until 11 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Tastes of the Mediterranean with locally sourced products

On the menu: The main menu includes mezze (such as Arancini, Spanish Meatballs and Kefta served with a yogurt dill sauce), cold antipasti (such as white bean dip, salt-wrinkled potatoes and North African Spiced Pickled Vegetables), flatbreads (such as Spanish ham or Garlic Broccoli & Herbed Ricotta), salads (such as roasted beet or Greek chopped salad) and panini (such as grilled zucchini or tuna and egg). Republic's plates menu includes dishes like Turkish Chicken (chicken marinated in spice yogurt with hand rolled couscous) and Mussels and Preserved Meyer Lemon (with parsley, garlic, chili and tomato with spaghetti). And look for the daily specials, which frequently include several seafood dishes and other seasonal, locally sourced fare. There are also dessert and breakfast menus.



Sample dish: Vegetable Tagine with Tunisian couscous, chickpeas, citrus spiced tomato sauce and grilled vegetable ($16).

In your glass: In addition to the menu of cocktails, beer and wines by the glass and bottle on the restaurant's wine list, the house wines are served by the taste, glass, half-liter and liter.

More "best": Republic was named Best of the Best for Best Restaurant Overall and Best of Manchester for Best Art in a Public Space, Best Cup of Coffee, Best Espresso Drinks, Best French Fries, Best Vegetarian Menu, Best Cocktail (for the Moroccan Old Fashioned) and Best Chef (for Ed Aloise).

2. The Puritan Backroom (245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, puritanbackroom.com. Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to midnight; takeout opens at 8 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: A Manchester institution offering something for all tastes — classic American cuisine with Greek and Italian-American influences.

On the menu: In the dining room, find appetizers, entrees, sandwiches, salads, soups, pizza and lunch specials. There is also an extensive dessert menu, a kids' menu, a gluten-free menu and a take-out menu for those picking up (on the "front" side of the Backroom). The street-side take-out pick-up location also dishes out the Puritan's house-made ice cream (sold from a walk-up window during warm months) and pre-packed ice cream in the Puri-

tan's many flavors, as well as ice cream sandwiches. At the bar, check out the restaurant's selection of mudslides — an offering the Backroom is almost as famous for as it is for its much beloved chicken tenders (which are served with its equally beloved duck sauce).

Sample dish: If all you've ever ordered is chicken fingers, next time check out the Greek fare, such as tzatziki and pita for $7.95 and spanakopeta for $5.95 (on the appetizer menu), Greek Macaroni & Cheese for $12.95 and chicken kabob for $13.95 (on the entree menu), Greek salad wrap for $6.95 (on the sandwich men), and, for dessert, baklava ($2.95).

In your glass: To pick one of the mudslides, try the Thunder Roadslide — A combo of Jack Daniels, Amaretto, Kahlua and Baileys that is "a tribute to the greatest rock & roll performer in rock & roll history, Bruce Springsteen."

More "best": The Puritan Backroom was named Best of Manchester in the Best Restaurant Overall category. The restaurant was also named Best of the Best in Best Chicken Tenders, Best Ice Cream, Best Menu Item (for chicken tenders), Best Cocktail (for the Mudslides) and Best Restaurant for Kids, and Best of Manchester in Best Salads.

3. Hanover Street Chophouse (149 Hanover St. in Manchester, 644-2467, hanoverstreetchophouse.com. Hours: Lunch is Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; dinner is Monday through Thursday from 5 to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 4 to 8 p.m.; bar hours are Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Saturday 4:30 to 10:30 p.m. and Sunday from 4 to 8 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: A creative yet classic steakhouse with top-notch service

On the menu: The dinner menu features starters (such as Kobe beef carpaccio and Point Judith calamari), soups and salads, steaks and chops, a choice of filet mignon preparations, a "Surf board" selection of seafood to add to steaks and house specialties (such as Cedar Planked Salmon, Tuna Steak and Jumbo Shrimp Risotto). The bar menu features snacky items such as Truffled Tater Tots and Candied Bacon as well as dishes such as Lobster Mac & Cheese and HSC Classic Burger. There is also a lunch menu (featuring a three-piece customizable "Box Lunch" option) and a dessert menu (including Strawberry Rhubarb Italian Pie and a nine-layer chocolate cake called The Howie).

Sample dish: Go for the classic fine dining steakhouse dinner — a 12-ounce filet mignon served with truffle butter ($48) and sides ($7 each or 3 for $18) such as baked sweet potato with pecans, avocado fries and asparagus with hollandaise.

In your glass: The extensive wine list includes a changing roster of at least 30 wines offered by the glass.

More "best": The Hanover Street Chophouse was named Best of the Best for Best Fine Dining and Best Steakhouse and Best of Manchester for Best Bathroom.

4. Mint Bistro (1105 Elm St. in Manchester, 625-6468, mintbistronh.com. Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Sunday 4 to 10 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday 4 to 11 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: A contemporary fusion menu and a sushi bar

On the menu: The dinner menu features tapas (such as Asian Short Rib Nachos, Mini Fish Tacos, Truffled Parmesan French Fries), salads and main dishes (Roasted Scottish Salmon, Braised Lamb Shank a'La Bolognese, Maple Glazed Sea Scallops). There are also lunch and sushi menus.

Sample dish: Elm Street Filet Mignon with Yukon gold mashed potatoes, grilled asparagus, bearnaise butter, crisp shallot and morel mushroom-glace de viande ($32)

In your glass: Sake Martini — Bulldog Gin, house sake, Domaine de Canton, fresh lemon and garnished with fresh ginger.

5. Firefly (22 Concord St. in Manchester, 935-9740, fireflynh.com. Hours: The bar and lounge is open until midnight. Food service: Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sunday, brunch is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner begins at 3 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Inspired classic American fare

On the menu: The dinner menu features starters (such as Go Go Bread and Sriracha Pork Meatballs), soup, pasta (such as Bourbon Street Fettuccine), salads, vegetarian selection, "Land" (with items like Veal Scaloppini and Braised Lamb Shank), "Sea" and classics (such as Roasted Half Chicken and Poor Man's Pie).

Sample dish: Mirin Glazed Tuna — flash-seared, served rare with spicy ginger sauce, sweet soy, fragrant jasmine rice and baby bok choy ($24.95).

In your glass: Check out the selection of mojitos, such as the mixed berry mojito with Bacardi Dragonberry Rum, fresh mint, lime, seasonal berries, simple syrup topped with soda water.

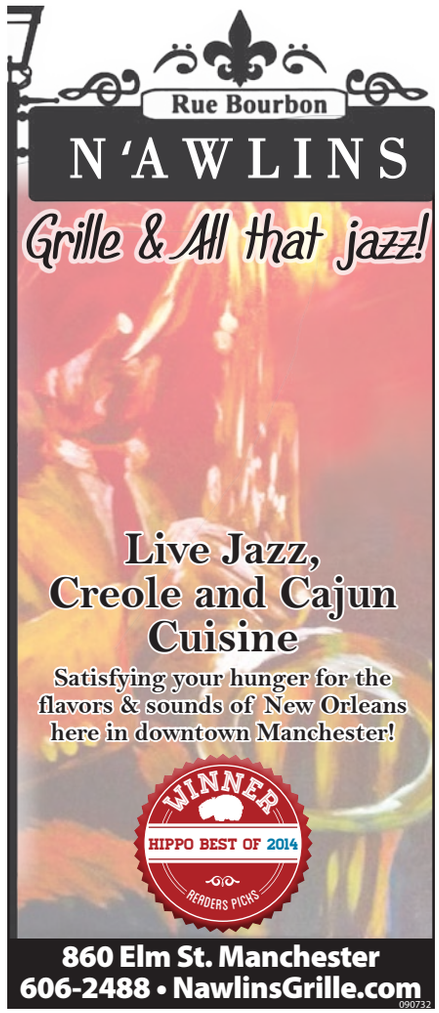
More "best": Firefly was picked Best of the Best for Best Date Spot and Best of Manchester for Best Menu Item (Go Go Bread).

6. Cotton (75 Arms St. in Manchester, 622-5488, cottonfood.com. Hours: Lunch is Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to











2:30 p.m.; dinner is Sunday from 5 to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 5 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Sophisticated and eclectic American comfort food

On the menu: The dinner menu features starters (Asian Pot Stickers, Sweet and Spicy Popcorn Shrimp and Rhode Island Style Calamari), salads (with a selection of enhancements such as pan-seared scallops or applewood smoked bacon) and entrees (Buttermilk Herb Fried Chicken, Creole Jambalaya and Pork Saltimbocca). And check out the ever-changing specials menu.

Sample dish: Tuna Tataki (from the starters menu) — seared sesame-crusted rare tuna, wakame mushroom salad, wasabi aioli and honey hoisin drizzle ($11.95)

In your glass: The OOOOOH SNAP! — Snap Neutral Spirits made from molasses, ginger and spices and Vermont Ice Maple Creme Liqueur with a graham cracker rim.

7. Common Man (25 Water St. in Concord, 228-3463, thecman.com. Hours: Lunch is Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; brunch buffet is Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; dinner is served Sunday through Thursday from 5 to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Bar'n Grill is open daily from 3 to 11 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: American and New England fare.

On the menu: On the main dinner menu, find beginnings, soups & salads, Yankee Favorites, Common Man Specialties, From the Coast and desserts. There is also a gluten-free dinner menu and a Bar'n Grill Menu, which includes sandwiches, pizzas, burgers and Grill Room Favorites.

Sample dish: Portsmouth Pie — Shrimp, scallops, cod and Maine lobster meat baked with lobster cream sauce and seasoned Ritz crumbs ($22.99)

In your glass: Most of the wines on the wine list are offered by the glass and by the bottle, and pairing recommendations on the menu make it easy to find a wine for your New England Pot Roast (a merlot or a shiraz, according to the menu).



More "best": Common Man was named Best of Concord in the Best Restaurant Overall category and Alex Ray, founder of the Common Man family of restaurants, was named runner-up for Best Local Philanthropist.

8. Copper Door (15 Leavy Drive in Bedford, 488-2677, copperdoorrestaurant.com. Hours: Sunday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. The bar is open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Approachable New American and upscale comfort food

On the menu: The dinner menu includes butcher's cuts, Copper Door classics, prime seafood, soups & salads and snacks (such as Crispy Tuscan Meatballs, Haddock Jasmine Roll and Southwest Chicken Tostada). There are also children's, lunch and bar and dessert menus.

Sample dish: Steak & Wild Mushroom Flatbread (from the new spring menu) — Roasted Shiitake & Crimini Mushroom, Garlic Cream, Balsamic Onion, Gorgonzola Cheese, Mozzarella, Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Arugula ($12)

In your glass: Garden Gimlet (from the "Adventurous Classics" cocktail menu) — Hendrick's Gin, Art in the Age Rhubarb Tea, muddled cucumber and fresh squeezed lime

9. The Barley House (132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com. Hours: Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New American Tavern cuisine

On the menu: The dinner menu features small plates (such as Fried Brussels Sprouts), soups & greens, large plates (such as Crispy Brick Pressed Maple Chicken), favorites (such as Smithwick's Curry Fish & Chips), burgers, sandwiches and tavern pizzas. There are also lunch, gluten-free and dessert menus.

Sample dish: Korean Burger — soy ginger barbecue sauce, beef patty, pickled cucumber & carrot, spicy lime mayo and a sesame bun ($13)

In your glass: Get a taste of some of the beer offerings with either the Dublin Double (two 10-ounce tasting pints of your choice) or the Beer Paddle (three 7-ounce tastings of their newest draughts).

More "best": The Barley House was named Best of the Best for Best Burgers, Best Bar with Pub Food and Best Pub Trivia Night and Best of Concord for Best Pub, Best French Fries, Best Beer Selection at a Bar/Restaurant, Best Bartender (for Corey Garland) and Best Waiter/Waitress (Mechelle Zydenbos).

10. Angelina's Ristorante Italiano (11 Depot St. in Concord, 228-3313, angelinasrestaurant.com. Hours: Lunch is served Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; dinner is served Monday through Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Classic Italian

On the menu: The dinner menu features antipasti, salads, vegetarian selections (such as Eggplant Romana and Vegetable Canneloni), pasta, chicken dishes, veal dishes, grilled dishes and desserts.

Sample dish: Osso Buco Milanese (available Friday nights only) — thick veal shank simmered with onions, carrots, celery, garlic, tomato and Italian herbs, served over risotto

In your glass: The wine list features a selection of Italian reserve wines, such as the Ceretto Zonchera Barolo from Piedmont.

More "best": Angelina's was named Best of Concord for Best Italian Restaurant.

11. O Steaks & Seafood (11 S. Main St. in Concord, 856-7925, magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks. Hours: Lunch is served Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Tap Room opens daily at 2:30 p.m. Dinner is served nightly after 5 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: A New American twist on a classic steakhouse.

On the menu: The dinner menu features starters, salads, seafood, steaks, racks, chops, fowl and entrees and house specialties (such as Kobe & Shiitake Mushroom Meatloaf and Miso Mustard Glazed Salmon).

Sample dish: Pops (from the starters menu) — Kobe beef, blue cheese and bacon bites ($9)



In your glass: Enjoy one of O's cocktails (perhaps the strawberry garnished martini pictured in a Facebook post from last summer) in the outdoor seating area during good weather.

More "best": O was named Best of Concord for Best Steakhouse, Best Restaurant Wine List, Best Date Spot, Best Mac & Cheese and Best Fine Dining Restaurant.

12. Surf (207 Main St. in Nashua, 595-9293, surfseafood.com. Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 4:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 4:30 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Creatively prepared and seriously fresh seafood.

On the menu: Starters & salads, Surf-style sandwiches and tacos, world-inspired seafood (such as Portuguese Seafood Stew or Shrimp Vindaloo), house specialties and a raw bar

Sample dish: Swordfish Steak & Eggs — seared Atlantic swordfish steak on pan-fried potatoes with sweet corn and onions, topped with a fried egg, charred tomatoes and cracked black pepper sauce ($27)

In your glass: A Facebook posting from March announced a selection of new spring cocktails.

More "best": Surf was named Best of Nashua for Best Restaurant Overall and Best Date Spot and Best of the Best for Best Seafood Restaurant. Chef/owner Michael Buckley (owner of Buckley's Great Steaks and MT's Local Kitchen as well) was named Best of the Best in the Best Chef category.

13. Granite Restaurant (at The Centennial, 96 Pleasant St. in Concord, 227-9005, graniterestaurant.com. Hours: Breakfast is served Monday through Saturday from 7 to 10 a.m.; lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; dinner is served Monday through Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 5 to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 5 to 8 p.m.; Sunday brunch runs from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New American food with seasonal menus influenced by French, Mediterranean and Asian styles, using local ingredients

On the menu: In addition to breakfast, lunch, brunch, nosh and bar menus, the dinner menu features appetizers, soups and salads and entrees such as Spiced Breast of Duck, Braised Boneless Beef Short Rib and Mushroom and Goat Cheese Strudel.

Sample dish: Spiced Grilled Rare Tuna with ginger butternut puree, cranberry apple quinoa, wilted greens, candy ginger, soy ($27 for a full portion, $17 for a half)

In your glass: The wine list's half-bottle offerings include Taittinger "La Francaise" Brut.

More "best": Granite was named Best of Concord for Best Wine Bar and for Best Chef (Corey Fletcher).

14. Cactus Jack's (782 S. Willow St. in Manchester, 627-8600, go2cjs.com. Hours: Open Sunday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Full menu is served at the bar until 12:30 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Americana with a Western flair

On the menu: Appetizers, Mexican Favorites (like Baja Grilled Fish Tacos and Pork Carnitas), Rancher Burgers, Great West Salads, wraps and sandwiches, seafood, soups, Texas barbecue, steaks, house specialties and desserts. There are also kids', vegetarian, lunch and lighter fare "In the Pink" menus.

Sample dish: Classic Jambalaya Pilaf (from the house specialties section) — jumbo shrimp, smoked Cajun andouille sausage and chicken tenderloins sauteed with fresh mushrooms, onions, peppers, homemade Creole sauce and served over rice ($14.99)

In your glass: Check out the selection of margaritas, such as the Chipotle Mango — a mix of cool mango with chipotle spice with Milagro Silver, triple sec and margarita mix.

15. New England's Tap House Grille (1292 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, 782-5137, taphousenh.com. Hours: Open Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to midnight; Saturday, 8 a.m. to midnight; Sunday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Craft beer, barbecue and New American cuisine.

On the menu: Appetizers (such as Tap House Mussels and Fried Squeaky Cheese), soups, salads, wraps, entrees, burgers, sandwiches and wood fire grilled pizzas

Sample dish: Southern style smoked pulled pork sandwich — slow smoked in house, smothered in house bourbon barbecue sauce and topped with beer-battered onion rings ($9)

In your glass: In addition to its large selection of beers, the Tap House offers a selection of meads, including Sugar Maple Cask and Hopped Blueberry.

More "best": The Tap House was named Best of Manchester for Best Beer Selection at a Bar/Restaurant, Best Poutine and Best Burgers.

16. Buckley's Great Steaks (438 DW Highway in Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com. Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 4 to 9 p.m.; the Tavern is open 4 p.m. to close daily)

When you're in the mood for: Steakhouse

On the menu: Appetizers, salads, steaks and house specialties such as a Wood Grilled Porterhouse Pork Chop and a Pan Roasted Cod





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Sample dish: Sugar Cured Strip Loin — 12-ounce strip loin served with roasted garlic demi-glace

In your glass: Get a drink in Riddle's Tavern, where there's a menu featuring burgers and sandwiches, such as the Bacon & Egg Burger (topped with cherry wood bacon and a fried egg with pepper jack cheese) and the Chicken-Bacon-Ranch Sandwich (buttermilk chicken breast with cherry wood smoked bacon and Monterey Jack cheese, served on a potato roll with cherry pepper ranch dressing and hand-cut fries).

More "best": Buckley's was named Best of Nashua for Best Burgers, Best Steakhouse and Best Fine Dining Restaurant. Chef/owner Michael Buckley (owner of MT's Local Kitchen and Surf restaurants as well) was named Best of the Best in the Best Chef category.

17. MT's Local Kitchen & Wine Bar (212 Main St. in Nashua, 595-9334, mtslocal.com. Hours: Lunch is served Thursday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; dinner is served Sunday through Thursday from 4 to 9 p.m. (pizzas available until 9:30 p.m.) and Friday and Saturday from 4 to 10 p.m. (pizzas available until 10:30 p.m.))

When you're in the mood for: An updated approach to casual American dining.

On the menu: Starters (such as Sweet & Salty Wings and Boggy Meadow Mac and Cheese), salads, wood grilled pizzas, sandwiches and entrees

Sample dish: General Tso's Lobster — lobster, crispy fried and tossed in a chili hoisin sauce with broccoli and shiitake mushrooms, over Chinese noodles

In your glass: Check out the current wine flight, featuring a trio of wines from a specific region or vineyard.

More "best": MT's was voted Best of Nashua for Best Menu Item (Bistro Tournedos) and chef/owner Michael Buckley (owner of Buckley's and Surf restaurants as well) was named Best of the Best in the Best Chef category.

18. Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way in Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com. Hours: The Dining Room is open daily for breakfast from 8 to 10:30 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner is served Monday through Thursday from 5:30 to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Brunch is served on Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Tavern is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. daily, and for dinner Monday through Saturday from 4:30 to 10 p.m., Sunday from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Corks is open Wednesday through Saturday from 4:30 to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 4:30 to 8 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Locally sourced fine dining cuisine in the main dining room — or presented with a twist in the more casual Tavern. The Inn's wine bar, Corks, also features a menu of cheese and meats.

On the menu: The fine dining menu includes appetizers (such as Maine Jonah Crab Cakes or Braised Maple Short Rib), salads and entrees (such as Maine Farms Oxtail Gnocchi, Roasted Hudson Valley Duck Breast and Roasted Black Cod).

Sample dish: A barbecue short rib pizza with pickled jalapeños, bacon, Vermont cheddar, mozzarella and caramelized onion (on the Tavern menu) — $13

In your glass: Enjoy a glass from the Inn's extensive wine list while soaking in the sun and/or fresh air on the Patio.

More "best": BVI was voted Best of Manchester for Best Restaurant Wine List, Best Wine Bar and Best Fine Dining Restaurant.

19. The Tuckaway Tavern & Butchery (58 Route 27 in Raymond, 244-2431, thetuckaway.com. Hours: Open daily from

11:30 a.m. to midnight. The Butchery is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New American cuisine that puts a twist on tavern fare and uses ingredients from the Butchery

On the menu: Starters, soups and salads, burgers, baked dishes (such as a dish called Big Pig, featuring pulled pork, NH-made barbecue, smashed potato and cheddar), grilled cuts, fried dishes and desserts (including Bloo Balls — fried blueberry cheesecake with Giffords Blueberry Ice Cream, Blueberry Jam sauce and whipped cream)

Sample dish: Brewhouse — a burger featuring beer-battered rings and beer cheese fondue ($9.75)

In your glass: Check out the selection of locally crafted beers.

More "best": Tuckaway was voted Best of Manchester for Best Butcher.

20. KC's Rib Shack (837 Second St. in Manchester, 627-7427, ribshack.net. Hours: Open Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Barbecue!

On the menu: A selection of fried appetizers (Hush Puppies, deep fried pickles, jalapeño popper wontons), salads, chili and stew, barbecue specialties (including combos), entrees, burgers, sandwiches, hot dogs and desserts

Sample dish: QQ Pladda (a barbecue combo to serve two, four or 10 people) features two sides and a choice of four of six meats (Memphis spare ribs, chicken breast, chicken leg quarter, Texas beef brisket, Sausage KChunks and Pulled Pork BBQ) — starts at $35.

In your glass: Can't not mention the Bubba Bucket for Two (Svedka vodka, Bacardi Rum, Bombay Gin, Southern Comfort, Amaretto and triple sec with cranberry, orange and pineapple juices served in a plastic beach pail).

More "best": KC's was voted Best of the Best for Best Barbecue and Best Ribs and Best of Manchester for Best Wings.

21. Restaurant Tek-Nique (170 Route 101 in Bedford, 488-5629, restaurant-teknique.com. Open Tuesdays through Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sunday for brunch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; dinner on Sunday open at 4 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New American and French cuisine in a casual fine dining setting.

On the menu: Salads, appetizers, grilled pizzas (such as the Garlicky Kale or the Chicken, White Bean and Bacon), house-made pasta, seafood and meat entrees, and desserts

Sample dish: Braised Lamb Osso Buco — Manchego whipped potatoes, coriander roasted carrots, fried Brussels sprouts and braising jus ($27)

In your glass: The wine list offers a wide selection of wines by the glass and of interesting higher-priced bottles (such as the Merry Edwards Pinot Noir from Sonoma or the Stags Leap Winery "Karia" Chardonnay).

22. Purple Finch Cafe (124 S. River Road in Bedford, 232-1953, purplefinch-cafe.com. Hours: Open daily from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Breakfast or lunch with locally sourced ingredients

On the menu: The breakfast menu includes omelets, eggs Benedict variations, other egg dishes, lighter fare, sweeter fare (such as Monkey Business pancakes with bananas and chocolate chips and Apple Pie French Toast) and combo dishes. The lunch menu includes appetizers, sandwiches, flatbreads, salads and burgers. There is also a kids' and a gluten-free menu.

Sample dish: Harvest Moon (on the Garden Greats menu) — Maple glazed turkey tips with diced apples, candied pecans, feta crumbles, dried cranberries, cucumbers, grape tomatoes and red onion on a bed of field greens. Served with maple vinaigrette and fresh baked bread.

In your mug: Check out their selection of New England Coffees.

More "best": Purple Finch was voted Best of Manchester for Best Breakfast.

23. Cheers (17 Depot St. in Concord, 228-0180, cheersnh.com. Open daily 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Classic American cuisine plus burgers and Tex-Mex — or just a place to watch the game

On the menu: Grazers (including Baltimore crab dip, grilled Thai chicken, Kobe meatballs and Cajun fried pickles), soups, salads, burgers, sandwiches, Tex-Mex and entrees

Sample dish: Carolina Flounder — pan-fried flounder on a bed of sweet corn, grape tomatoes, zucchini spaghetti and shiitake mushrooms with lobster cream sauce, served with your choice of potato ($16.99)

In your glass: Enjoy your drink with live music on Thursdays on the patio, open May through September.

More "best": Cheers was voted Best of Concord for Best Pub Trivia Night, Best Salads and Best Burgers.

24. T-Bones (77 Lowell Road in Hudson, 882-6677, t-bones.com. Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Full menu available in bar until 12:30 a.m.)

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and updated American cuisine

On the menu: Appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, burgers, classics, vegetarian fare, seafood, desserts, an "In the Pink" selection of lighter options (such as "Just Enough" Blackened Chicken Caeser Salad and baked stuffed seafood casserole) and new additions

Sample dish: Grilled Gouda, tomato and basil (from the vegetarian section) — buttery wheat berry bread layered with gouda, tomato and fresh basil with a side of homemade potato chips and pickles ($9.99)

In your glass: Key Lime Pie Martini — whipped cream vodka, Malibu rum and lime juice, served with graham cracker rim

More "best": T-Bones was voted Best of Nashua for Best Restaurant for Kids and Best Chef (Nicole Barreira).

25. The Red Blazer (72 Manchester St. in Concord, 224-4101, theredblazer.com. Hours: The restaurant is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; pub is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New American cuisine

On the menu: Soups & salads, appetizers, sandwiches, main entrees, pub fare and a Sunday breakfast buffet that features made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles, eggs and pancakes

Sample dish: Roasted Ginger & Sesame Seed Crusted Salmon — fresh salmon, pan-seared and topped with an orange cream sauce ($19.99)

In your glass: Happy hour in the Peanut Pub (3 to 5 p.m., Sundays through Fridays) features $3 drafts, discounted cocktails ($1 off all cocktails) and $5 apps such as coconut chicken and Buffalo tenders

More "best": The Red Blazer was voted Best of Concord for Best Buffet and Best Bathroom.

26. Cask & Vine (1½ E. Broadway in Derry, 965-3454, caskandvine.com. Hours: Open Tuesday through Thursday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 1 p.m. to midnight.)

When you're in the mood for: Interesting beers and wines with complementary tasty treats

On the menu: Small bites; soups, salads and appetizers; sandwiches; entrees and desserts

Sample dish: "Duck, Duck, Duck, Goose" from the sandwich selection — duck confit, duck bacon, smoked duck, fotina cheese, shallot jam and fois gras "mayo" ($15)

In your glass: The always changing beers on tap include New Hampshire-brewed craft beers.

27. The Homestead Restaurant & Tavern (641 DW Highway in Merrimack, 429-2022, homesteadnh.com. Hours: Lunch is served Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; dinner service starts at 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Dinner is available Sunday starting at 11:30 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Traditional American fare with live music

On the menu: The dinner menu features appetizers, salads and entree salads, entrees, steakhouse dishes and combo dishes (featuring prime rib or filet mignon with a choice of seafood). There is a gluten-free menu.

Sample dish: Bourbon Street Tenderloin Tips — tenderloin tips seared with portabella mushrooms in a sweet and savory Jack Daniels demi-glace. ($22.99)

In your glass: Enjoy a drink in the bar with one of the items from the tavern menu, which includes sandwiches, flatbread pizzas, burgers, panini and comfort food dishes.

More "best": Homestead was voted Best of Nashua for Best Mac & Cheese.

28. Hermanos Cocina Mexicana (11 Hills Ave. in Concord, 224-5669, hermanosmexican.com. Restaurant hours: Sunday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Lounge hours: Sunday through Thursday, 4 to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 4 to 10 p.m. Takeout hours: Sunday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Authentic Mexican cuisine — and live music

On the menu: Appetizers (such as flautas, taquitos and baby chimichangas), nachos, soups, salads, burritos, enchiladas,

tacos, tostados, quesadillas, house specials and combo plates

Sample dish: Pastor de Avocado — fresh flour tortilla rolled around a filling (grilled sirloin beef, white meat chicken, shrimp, spicy veggie crumble, black beans or refried beans) plus cheese, sauteed tomatoes, black olives, scallions, Spanish onions and jalapeños, with fresh avocado, a squeeze of lemon and a sprinkle of fresh cilantro ($15.99).

In your glass: Check out one of the many margaritas — such as the Razborita, which has Sauza Extra Gold Tequila, La Belle Orange Liqueur and the restaurant's special mix.

More "best": Hermanos was voted Best of Concord for Best Cocktail (Margarita), Best Burrito and Best Mexican Restaurant.

29. T-Bones (25 S. River Road in Bedford, 641-6100, t-bones.com. Hours: Open Sunday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Full menu is served in the bar until 12:30 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Classic and updated American cuisine.

On the menu: Appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, burgers, classics, vegetarian fare, seafood, desserts, an "In the Pink" selection of lighter options and new additions (such as a mini app serving of Buffalo Chicken Egg Roll and Black Pepper-Parmesan Crusted Haddock Wrap).

Sample dish: After a steak dinner, how about a dessert, such as the Peanut Butter Brownie Trifle — creamy pudding full of peanut butter cup pieces, peanut butter chips and brownie bits topped with whipped cream and chocolate ganache ($4.99).

In your glass: Tie Dye Mai Tai — Sailor Jerry's spiced rum, orange Curacao, OJ, sour mix, dark rum and grenadine.

30. Fratello's Italian Grille (155 Dow St. in Manchester, 624-2022, fratellos.com. Hours: lunch is served daily from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; dinner starts at 4 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Italian-American favorites plus wood-fired brick-oven pizzas, steaks and seafood — and live music.

On the menu: Antipasti, soup, dinner salads, seafood, pasta dishes, chicken dishes, veal dishes, steak dishes, sandwiches and pizza. There is also a gluten-free menu.

Sample dish: Seafood Sophia — Maine lobster, fresh scallops and P.E.I. mussels lightly simmered with button mushrooms and roma tomatos in a lobster sherry cream sauce tossed with bowtie pasta with fresh scallions

In your glass: Enjoy a drink in the lounge upstairs with a music chaser — Fratello's has live music Monday through Saturday, and Thursday is jazz night.

More "best": Fratello's was named Best of Manchester for Best Italian Restaurant.

31. La Carreta Mexican Restaurant (545 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 628-6899, 1875 S. Willow St. in Manchester, 623-7705, lacarretamex.com. Hours: Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday noon to 11 p.m. on Hooksett Road, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on South Willow Street; Sunday, noon to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Classic Mexican fare

On the menu: Appetizers (including a selection of nachos), soups, salads, combo specials (featuring tacos, enchiladas, tostada, tamales, chile relleno and burritos — all served with beans and rice), vegetarian offerings, house specials, quesadillas, fajitas, chicken and beef entrees and seafood

Sample dish: Enchiladas Mole Poblano —Two chicken enchiladas topped with lettuce, sour cream and a mild dark mole sauce ($10.75)

In your glass: Mexican classics for those with a ride and for the designated driver — enjoy a margarita or a Mexican Coca Cola or other soda from the bottle (made with cane sugar).

More "best": La Carreta was named Best of the Best for Best Mexican/Latin American Restaurant and Best of Manchester for Best Burrito.

32. High Street Farmhouse (9 High St. in Goffstown, 384-1990, highstreetfarmhousenh.com. Hours: Wednesday through Sunday from 4 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Comfort food made from locally sourced ingredients

On the menu: Soups, salads, appetizers, a section of entrees called Rustic (Yankee Pot Roast, Grandma's Chicken Pot Pie, Lemon Crumbed Haddock, Grilled Garlic Delmonico Steak), wood-smoked barbecue and burgers and sandwiches

Sample dish: Barn Door Trio (in the barbecue section) —1/4 rack of St. Louis ribs, pulled pork, BBQ chicken breast, served with BBQ dippers ($19)

In your glass: High Street has several NH brews on draft, according to a recent Facebook post.

33. 900 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzeria (50 Dow St. in Manchester, 641-0900, 900degrees.com. Hours: Sunday through Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Wood-fired pizzas — but you can also find pasta, salad and, at lunch, sandwiches and panini

On the menu: The dinner menu features appetizers, soups and salads, fresh pasta dishes and the pizzas.









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Sample dish: Saltimbocca wood fired pizza — roasted garlic cream topped with fresh mozzarella, Fontina, roasted chicken, fresh ripe tomatoes, caramelized onion, shaved prosciutto and torn sage ($16)

In your glass: The wine list includes a house-made red and white sangria.

More "best": 900 Degrees was named Best of the Best for Best Pizza, Dine In.

34. Giorgio's Ristorane & Meze Bar (524 Nashua St. in Milford, 673-3939; giorgios.com. Hours: Sunday from noon to 9 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: A menu featuring Italian and Greek dishes.

On the menu: Appetizers, soups & salads, meze (Greek small plates), grilled pizzas, pastas, steaks, "Truly Greek" (with dishes like Spartan Roasted Lamb, Oven Baked Moussaka and Chicken Souvlaki), classics (featuring classic Italian restaurant dishes) and desserts (which includes a selection of mini desserts)

Sample dish: The Italian Feast (from the dinner menu's classics section) — after going Greek for appetizers, go Italian for dinner with this plate featuring eggplant Parmesan, chicken Parmesan, meatballs and lasagna (pasta can be replaced with spinach, whole wheat rigatoni or gluten-free penne).

In your glass: The cocktails' menu includes a "Slender Leaf" section featuring stevia-sweetened drinks such as the Cucumber-Lime Caipirinha (a Brazilian cocktail with Leblon Cachaca, freshly muddled English cucumber, lime and stevia).

More "best": Giorgio's was named Best of Nashua for Best Bathrooms.

35. Ignite (100 Hanover St. in Manchester, 644-0064, ignitebng.com. Hours: Monday through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.; full menu available until 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.)

When you're in the mood for: American-style bistro food

On the menu: Appetizers, entrees, salads, burgers and sandwiches

Sample dish: Caribbean Grilled New York Steak — jerk marinated and served over rice pilaf finished with a cilantro sour cream and choice of vegetable ($20.99)

In your glass: Enjoy your favorite drink at their long, sleek bar.

36. Sunny's Table (11 Depot St. in Concord, 225-8181, sunnystable.com. Hours: Wednesday through Saturday from 5 to 9 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: An upscale-casual dining destination with an eclectic menu utilizing the freshest local ingredients and with an Asian flair, according to the website

On the menu: The menu offers small plates and large plates as well as desserts.

Sample dish: A Yelp posting from March raved about pork belly tacos and kimchee quesadillas.

In your glass: Check out their offerings of beer and wine.

37. Tuscan Kitchen (67 Main St. in Salem, 952-4875, tuscanbrands.com. Hours: Dining room is open Monday through Saturday for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and for dinner from 3 to 9 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays and 3 to 10 p.m. from Wednesday through Saturday. Sunday dinner and pranzo menu is available from noon to 4 p.m. and the dinner menu from 4 to 9 p.m. in the dining room. The wine bar is open from 5 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Regional Italian fare — on your menu and then on your shopping list at the neighboring Tuscan Market

On the menu: The dinner menu features a variety of starters and antipasti, pizzas, salad, pasta, Secondi (seafood and meat

entrees), and desserts. There are also kids' and gluten-free menus.

Sample dish: Branzino (from the Secondi menu) — pan-bronzed Chilean Sea Bass, Risotto con Zucca, Rainbow Chard, Meyer Lemon Crema ($39)

In your glass: Tuscan Tini — Citron Vodka, Limoncello, Hand muddled Basil, Fresh Lime Juice, Simple Syrup

38. Beefside (106 Manchester St. in Concord, 228-0208, beefsiderestaurant.com. Hours: dining room is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Sautrday from 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Breakfast is served Monday through Saturday from 7 to 11 a.m., and Sunday form 8 to 11:30 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: American cuisine classics, especially roast beef, seafood and hickory smoked barbecue

On the menu: Appetizers, baked seafood dinners, barbecue pork and beef brisket, breakfast, sandwiches (including their roast beef sandwiches), burgers, chicken dinners, desserts, fried seafood, pasta, prime rib and soups, steak

Sample dish: The Super Giant (in the roast beef sandwiches section of the menu) — 6 ounces of roast beef plus your choice of condiments, lettuce, tomato, mayo and American cheese ($6.80)

In your glass: Ask about the seasonal offering from Sam Adams and the seasonal seating on the patio.

More "best": Beefside was picked Best of Concord for Best Sandwich (for its Roast Beef Sandwiches).

39. The Common Man (88 Range Road in Windham, 898-0088, thecman.com. Hours: Open for dinner, Monday through Friday starting at 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday starting at 4:30 p.m. The Bar'n Grill opens Monday through Saturday at 4 p.m. and on Sundays at 3 p.m. Opens Sundays for brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: American and New England fare.

On the menu: On the main dinner menu, find beginnings, soups & salads, Yankee Favorites, Common Man Specialties, From the Coast and desserts. There is also a gluten-free dinner menu and a Bar'n Grill Menu, which includes sandwiches, pizzas, burgers and Grill Room Favorites.

Sample dish: Uncommon Steak Oscar — seasoned and char-grilled with crab, broccoli and bearnaise sauce ($19.99)

In your glass: The bar menu includes a selection of Grogs & Hot Toddies, such as the Melted Snickers (Stoli Salted Karamel, Amaretto Disaronno and hot chocolate) and Blackberry Cider (Bird Dog Blackberry Whiskey and hot apple cider).

More "best": Alex Ray, founder of the Common Man family of restaurants, was also named runner-up in the Best Local Philanthropist category.

40. Napa East Wine Lounge & Shop (12 Murphy Drive in Nashua, 595-9463, napaeast.com. Hours: the restaurant is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 3 to 10 p.m. and Thursday through Saturday from 3 p.m. to midnight. The wine store is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 3 to 10 p.m. and Thursday through Saturday from 3 to 10:30 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New wines, nosh to go with them and wine classes and dinners.

On the menu: Soups, salads, small plates, pizza, pastas, main plates and desserts (include a build-your-own-plate assortment of dessert minis that cost $2 each). There is also a vegan menu.

Sample dish: Deviled Eggs and Crispy Pork Belly from the Small Plates section — with shoestring frites, fried capers and chipotle aioli ($12)

In your glass: 100 wines are offered by the glass, according to the website.

More "best": Napa East was named Best of Nashua for Best Restaurant Wine List and Best Wine Bar.

41. Salona Bar & Grill (128 Maple St. in Manchester, 624-4020. Hours: Open Sunday through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to midnight; Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Pizza, traditional American fare and/or Greek and Mediterranean — and live music

On the menu: Appetizers, soups and salads, sandwiches, burgers and clubs, steak and chicken, seafood, pasta, specialty dinners, pizzas, calzones, grinders and desserts (including a Raisin Rice Pudding, which is made in-house and served warm and topped with whipped cream and cinnamon, according to their Facebook page).

Sample dish: The specialty pizza menu includes a White Pizza with mozzarella and cheddar cheeses, tomatoes, garlic and oregano

In your glass: A Facebook posting from March features photos of two of the restaurant's interesting drinks: Princess Punch and Cookies & Cream.

More "best": Salona was named Best of the Best for Best Bartender (Maria Kostakis).

42. Strange Brew Tavern (88 Market St. in Manchester, 666-4292, strangebrewtavern.net. Hours: Open daily from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Pub and bistro food, more than 100 draft beers and live music

On the menu: Soups, salads, quesadillas, burgers, sandwiches, specialties (such

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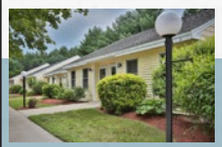
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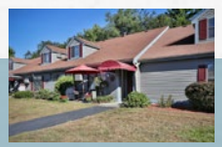
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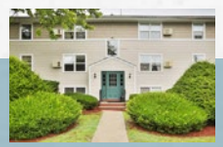


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as Curry Coconut Chicken, Beer-Braised Short Ribs and Guinness Meatballs) and pub food (the menu for which is served until 1 a.m. from Tuesday through Saturday and includes Fried Pickle Chips, Mediterranean Nachos and Zucchini Fries).

Sample dish: Fish Tacos — soft tacos with crispy fried haddock, homemade slaw, tomatoes, red onions and a zesty guacamole sauce, served with hand-cut fries or onion rings

In your glass: The tacos, like many items on the menu, get a beer pairing recommendation (in this case "any IPA will be delicious complement").

More "best": Strange Brew was named Best of the Best for Best Waiter/Waitress (Ken Aborn), Best Bar for Live Music, Best Beer Selection at a Bar/Restaurant and Best of Manchester for Best Waiter/Waitress (Tarah Nolan) and Best Bar with Pub Food. Strange Brew also got an honorable mention in the Best Pick-Up Place category.

43. Milly's Tavern (500 N. Commercial St. in Manchester, 625-4444, millystavern.com. Hours: Open Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. or until 1 a.m. if there is a show)

When you're in the mood for: Pub food, beer brewed on site and entertainment (live music, Slam Free or Die, comedy and more)

On the menu: Appetizers, soups and salads, quesadillas, wraps, sandwiches and subs, pizza, burgers, entrees and "Near East" items such as Lamb Kabobs and Grape Leaves

Sample dish: Beer-Battered Fish N' Chips — Fresh Haddock battered in the brewery's Manch-Vegas IPA, French Fries, Coleslaw and Tartar Sauce ($11)

In your glass: Mt. Uncanoonuc Golden Cream Ale (light-bodied with a slight hint of malt and crisp creamy finish and 4.3 percent alcohol by volume, according to the website)

More "best": Milly's was voted Best of Manchester for Best Ribs.

44. Tandy's Top Shelf (1 Eagle Square in Concord, 856-7614. Find them on Facebook. Hours: Open Monday and Tuesday, 11 a.m. to midnight; Wednesday, 9 a.m. to midnight; Thursday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m. to midnight)

When you're in the mood for: New and traditional American fare — and nightlife

On the menu: Breakfast, brunch, burgers, diners, sandwiches, vegetarian dishes and more, according to their Facebook page

Sample dish: Po Boy Sliders (from the takeout menu) — slow-cooked pot roast in gravy on toasted rolls with mayo and seasonings ($5)

In your glass: According to their Facebook page, their happy hour runs from 3 to 7 p.m. with half-price drinks and apps.

More "best": Tandy's was voted Best of Concord for Best Wings, Best Bar with Pub Food, Best Dance Club, Best Chicken Tenders, Best Menu Item (chicken tenders) and Best Late Night Eats. Tandy's also got honorable mention for Best Break-Up Spot.

45. Red Arrow Diner (61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, redarrowdiner.com. Hours: 24 hours, seven days a week except for Christmas Eve)

When you're in the mood for: Classic diner fare with a New Hampshire flavor

On the menu: Breakfast (omelets, egg dishes, griddle dishes and more — served 24 hours), sandwiches, burgers, clubs, chili, seafood, classic dinner plates (such as Liver and Onions with Bacon), baked bean dinners, fried baskets, salads, pastas and Blue Plate Specials

Sample dish: Baked Stuffed Haddock (Friday on the Blue Plate Special menu) — topped with shrimp stuffing ($11.99, $9.99 between 4 and 6 p.m.)

In your glass: Moe-Coolatta — mixture of ice coffee, cream and chocolate with whipped cream and chocolate sauce ($3.75)

More "best": Red Arrow was voted Best of the Best for Best Diner, Best Breakfast, Best Cheap Eats and Best Late Night Eats and Best of Manchester for Best Mac & Cheese.

46. bluAqua Restaurant (292 Route 101 in Amherst, 673-4321, bluaquarestaurant.com. Hours: Open daily from 5 to 10 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: New American cuisine

On the menu: Staters, soups, salads and entrees divided by "aqua" and "terra" (such as Trios Cochon — wild boar rib chops, pork cheeks, pork belly, garlic mashes, root vegetables, demi-glace)

Sample dish: Fries & Fondue (on the starter menu) — sharp cheddar fondue with a truffle aioli ($7)

In your glass: In a Facebook posting from February, someone thanked the restaurant for the best "celebration martini a girl could have."

47. Ralph & Jo's Cafe (416 Central St. in Franklin, 934-6211. Find them on Facebook. Hours: Open Wednesday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sunday from 7 a.m. to noon.)

When you're in the mood for: Breakfast and lunch classics

On the menu: Salads, clubs, burgers, deli sandwiches, chicken sandwiches, grilled sandwiches, breakfast sandwiches, omelets, pancakes and egg dishes

Sample dish: Tobias Tower of Terror (from the "Over Achievers" section of the lunch menu) — start the stack with half a grilled cheese, then fried chicken tenders, sauteed peppers, onions, mushrooms, jalapeños, BBQ sauce, bacon, ham, lettuce, tomato, spicy mayo and topped with the other half of the grilled cheese ($10.95)

In your mug: Get a cup of coffee to go with goodies like Pumpkin Chocolate Chip MaddHatter Muffins (mentioned in an April Facebook post).

48. Holy Grail (64 Main St. in Epping, 679-9559, holygrailrestaurantandpub.com. Hours: Open Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to midnight; Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: "A pub in the truest sense of the word" that combines "present-day ideas with the family values of our Irish heritage," according to the website, plus live music.

On the menu: The categories include Quest Starters, Sanctified Salads, Virtuous Soups, Ordained Burgers, Papal Pasta, Saintly Seafood, Sinless Sandwiches, Steaks Fit for a King, Traditional Irish Fayre and Divine Desserts.

Sample dish: Cider Salmon — an 8-ounce salmon filet lightly floured and baked with fresh thyme, Manger's cider & lemon slices and served with two sides ($20)

In your glass: They have beer, they have cocktails but also check out their combo offerings, which mix different beers (a Black and Blue with Guinness and Sea Dog Wild Blueberry), beers with other beverages (Snakebite with Guinness and Magner's Cider), beer with liqueurs (Black Tooth with Guinness and Amaretto), etc. (Celtic Toast with Guinness and Champagne).

49. Piccola Italia Ristorante (815 Elm St. in Manchester, 606-5100, piccolaitalianh.com. Hours: Tuesday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 11 p.m.; Sunday from noon to 9 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Authentic Italian cuisine

On the menu: Antipasti, soups & salads, pastas (all of which have a gluten-free option), Italian Classics (such as chicken or veal Piccata, Parmigiana or Cacciatore), grill items and house specialties (such as the Paolini, named after the owner, featuring chicken or veal sauteed with jumbo shrimp, artichoke hearts and roasted red peppers with gorgonzola cheese, sauteed with fresh made fettuccini pasta), as well as a selection of desserts

Sample dish: Seafood Piccola Italia — lobster meat, chopped clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops, calamari, sauteed together with fresh garlic in marinara sauce, over linguini ($26.99)

In your glass: A tweet in March showed off the restaurant's Infusion Martini.

More "best": Piccola was voted Best of the Best for Best Italian Restaurant.

50. Amphora (55 Crystal Ave. in Derry, 537-0111, amphoranh.com. Hours: Open Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.)

When you're in the mood for: Fine Greek dining

On the menu: Hot and cold appetizers, entrees (including an "off the grill" section), vegetarian items and salads, pita sandwiches and desserts (including "Baklava Cheesecake" that features "layers of cheesecake and baklava," according to the website)

Sample dish: Lamb Shanks — slow-cooked grass-fed lamb ragout served with lemon-oregano potatoes ($21.95)

In your glass: Check out the selection of red and white Greek wines, including a dessert wine, the Creta Olympias Samos Muscat.

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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT APRIL 24 - 30, 2014, AND BEYOND



Saturday, April 26

It's time to do some shopping. Several area events offer the perfect chance to shop for one-of-a-kind items. Beaver Brook, 117 Ridge Road in Hollis, will hold its Earth Day Barn Sale today from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find books, toys, lawn and garden items, jewelry, household items, tools, antiques and other items donated to this fundraiser. Or, head to Brady Sullivan Plaza, 1000 Elm St. in Manchester, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the NHIA Art Attack, an art sale and music festival (see nhia.edu). The Wrong Brain Spring Bizaare alternative craft fair will run today from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Millspace at Newmarket Mills, 55 Main St., Newmarket. Find unconventional, underground, handmade, vintage and recycled goods and a pop-up gallery with original work. Visit the event Facebook page for more information. Tomorrow, head to Camp Allen in Bedford from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a Charity Craft Fair featuring vendors, raffle prizes and more.

Eat: Fresh eats

Here's how you know spring is really here — outdoor farmers market season is back! The Seacoast Growers Association will kick off its markets on Thursday, May 1, with the Exeter Farmers Market (held 2:15 to 6 p.m. on Swasey Parkway). The Portsmouth Market (held Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at City Hall on Junkins Avenue) kicks off for the season on Saturday, May 3. For a complete listing of the association's markets and locations, see seacoastgrowers.org.

Drink: Cider

Not a beer person? Not a wine person? Get on the cider bandwagon. Top Shelf Brews (826 Lafayette Road in Hampton, 601-2894, topshelfbrewsstore.com) will hold a tasting of Stump City Cider on Thursday, April 24, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Be Merry: At the Currier

The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St. in Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org) will celebrate what for many kids in New Hampshire is April vacation week (April 28 through May 2; other schools are on vacation April 21 through April 25) with daily events (except for Tuesday, April 29, when the museum is closed). Check out storytime in the gallery on Monday, April 28, at 11:30 a.m. and come back on Wednesday, April 30, at 11 a.m. for a collage-making project. Go online for a complete schedule.



Friday, April 25

Catch local artists performing Fridays at the First Parish Church (218 Central Ave. in Dover) as part of a series that kicks off tonight at 7 p.m. with Eric Sinclair (a singer/songwriter) and bluegrass groups Drowned Valley and Route 1 Bluegrass. The series (which is appropriate for all ages) will help to fund repairs to the church, which was built in 1829. Admission (by donation) costs $10 for adults, $5 for children 12 and under and $25 for families. The series will continue with the Funky Divas of Gospel and Naughty and Nice on Friday, May 30.



Friday, April 25

One singular sensation: *A Chorus Line* begins a multi-week run at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org) today with a show at 7:30 p.m. The musical, which follows a group of performers hoping "God, I hope I get it" as they try out for a Broadway show, runs through Saturday, May 17, with 7:30 p.m. shows on Fridays and Saturdays (and, starting on May 1, Thursdays) and 2 p.m. shows Sunday, April 27; Sunday, May 4; Sunday, May 11, and Saturday, May 17.



Saturday, April 26

Country-rock since way back, Pure Prairie Leauge will play the Flying Monkey Performance Center (39 S. Main St. in Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com) tonight at 7:30 p.m. Houston Bernard, local rockabilly and country artist, will open. Tickets start at $34.



Saturday, April 26

Catch the 1928 Buster Keaton silent comedy Steamboat Bill Jr. tonight at 8 p.m. at the College of Saint Mary Magdalen, 511 Kearsarge Mountain Road in Warner. Admission cost $5. The 1921 silent film *Destiny* from German director Fritz Lang will screen tomorrow, April 27, at 4:30 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre, 40 Main St. in Wilton. Admission is free but a $5 donation is suggested. Both films will be presented with live music performed by Jeff Rapsis. See jeffrapsis.com for details.



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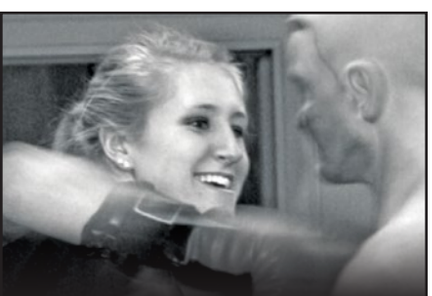
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ARTS

Organic and twisted

League member opens shop in Concord

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com



A necklace by Kristin Kennedy. Courtesy photo.



Kristin Kennedy in her new shop. Kelly Sennott photo.

One of Kristin Kennedy's more distinct jewelry designs is what she calls the "artist's palette," a formation of gold that cradles sets of multi-colored stones. Its shapes are irregular, its patterns nontraditional, but that's what makes Kennedy's feminine, artistic jewelry what it is.

"My work is organic in its shape and design," Kennedy said at her new storefront, tucked away on Warren Street in downtown Concord. It was a Monday, a few weeks before the shop's grand opening, and Kennedy was busy. After the interview, she'd go straight back into her studio, complete with sandblaster, soldering table and vent.

"My inspirations come from nature. In some pieces, you can see this more. If I'm inspired by a plant, it takes a more freeform shape," Kennedy said, gesturing to some of her other pieces, many of which are shaped like leaves or petals.

She's new to being a retail business owner, but Kennedy's been a self-employed jewelry maker since age 17, when she sold handmade jewelry creations to local galleries in her hometown of Tulsa, Okla. She studied at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, where she earned a BFA in metals and jewelry design, and she took courses at the Gemological Institute of America in California. She also worked as an apprentice for two years with a goldsmith in Sedona, from 1995 to 1997.

When she and her family moved to New Hampshire in 2000, she wasted no time becoming juried into the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen. Since then, she's sold her work in nine different galleries throughout the East Coast, from New York to Connecticut, New Hampshire to Vermont. In the summertime, she'd travel constantly for exhibitions and festivals (particularly the Sunapee League of New Hampshire Craftsmen's fair). She's taken a break from traveling for now; before she opened shop, she primarily performed custom work and worked on her website.

"I've been looking for my own space for about a year, a space in which I could have my own studio and also a small gallery. There weren't many options this size," she said, gesturing to the space, which is 600 square feet.

When the quaint spot at 30A Warren St. become available in December, she wasted no time at all.

"We opened the shop Dec. 17," Kennedy said. "It was a soft opening. The space became available Dec. 3, and we pretty much gutted the entire interior and transformed it into our gallery space, which turned out really beautifully, I think."

The pieces that line the display cases are colorful yet natural, classic yet distinct.

"I look for really unique gems, something that offers a twist on the traditional," Kennedy said, picking up a pair of dangling pearl earrings with a textured, gold base. "These are South Sea Pearls, but I've designed them in a way that's pretty unique — they have a contemporary flair. It's not your traditional style."

Kennedy makes silver jewelry, too, but that collection is a bit funkier and edgier. She goes out of her way to seek out stones that provide a pop of color, or better yet, a surprise.

"A lot of people assume sapphires are blue because that's what they know," she said, picking up a gold necklace that had not blue but orange stones in it, inspired by a coral reef. "These are also sapphires."

She feels lucky that her work has been received so well that she's been able to continue making jewelry, and continue to grow in a permanent location right in the hub of downtown Concord.

"I think there's a lot of potential here. It's a great place in the summer, as well, with the artists market and concerts at True Brew close by," Kennedy said. "I'm not a full-scale jewelry store. I make one-of-a-kind custom pieces. … I think people appreciate the fact that they're not only meeting the artist, but also the person who purchased and found this specific stone that really inspired them, artistically."

Attend the Kristin Kennedy Fine Jewelry Design grand opening

Where: 30A Warren St., Concord
When: Wednesday, May 7, from 4 to 8 p.m.; ribbon cutting at 4:30 p.m.
Contact: kristinkennedy.com, 387-0706, and find her on Facebook

28 Art
Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

33 Classical
Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

34 Theater
Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

Art

• **OPEN DOORS TROLLEY NIGHT** in downtown Manchester Thurs., April 24, 5-8 p.m. Trolleys start at Langer Place, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, at 5 p.m. Three trolleys, five art venues, free parking at Langer Place and 200 Bedford St. For list of venues visit opendoorsmanchester.com, call 669-7469.

• **PETALS 2 PAINT** floral exhibition and event at East Colony Fine Art, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 621-7400, April 24 through April 26. Opening reception on Thurs., April 24, 5-8 p.m. Thirty floral displays by local florists and floral designers. People's choice event that night. Visit eastcolony.com.

• **NHIA ART ATTACK** Manchester art sale and music festival at the Brady Sullivan Plaza, 1000 Elm St., on Sat., April 26, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 836-2527, visit nhia.edu, sharonarts.org.

• **WRONG BRAIN SPRING BIZAARE** alternative craft fair on Sat., April 26, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at Millspace at Newmarket Mills, 55 Main St., Newmarket, free. Unconventional, underground, handmade, vintage and recycled goods. Pop-up gallery with original work. Visit the event Facebook page for more information.

• **NHIA CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION** for District I, high school visual art competition, award ceremony and gallery exhibition on Sun., April 27, at French Building Rotunda, 148 Concord St., Manchester. Visit nhia.edu, sharonarts.org.

• **WEDNESDAYS' WISDOM POTLUCK** at Kimball Jenkins School of Art, 266 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3932, kimballjenkins.com, on Wed., April 29, at 6 p.m., featuring newly-appointed Artist Laureate Alice Fogel. Free event, potluck, BYO (wine, beer, other).

• **FAMILY STUDIO** at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org, 669-6144, on Wed., April 30, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Create mythical creature through collage, all ages welcome, free admission during school vacation week.

• **CURRIER MUSEUM: STORIES EXPLORED** on Thurs., May 1, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, materials provided, all ages welcome, admission free. Let art in galleries inspire you to illustrate your own story.

• **CRAFTING AN ARTFUL HOME** five-part series, presented by Kimball Jenkins Estate & School of Art (266 N. Main St., Concord) and NH-based interior designers/stylists. "Mixing Colors and Patterns Like a Pro" Thurs., May 1, 6-8 p.m.; "Liven Up Your Space With a New Way of Looking at Art" Thurs., May 8, 6-8 p.m.; "Backyard Style" Thurs., May 15, 6-8 p.m. Admission $30 per event, $120 for all five. Visit kimballjenkins.com, call 225-3932 for details.

• **ARTS AT THE HUNTING-**

LOCAL — COLOR —

NH art world news



"Boggy Meadow" by Betsy Craumer of Bedford, one of the pieces on display at the Pastel Society of New Hampshire show.

• **Pastels, pastels everywhere:** The Pastel Society of New Hampshire will have work on display at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord) April 25 through May 31 during its ninth annual members exhibition, bursting with still lifes, portraitures, animal studies and landscapes. The show is juried by Christine Bodnar, Master Circle Member of the International Association of Pastel Societies and signature member of the Connecticut Pastel Society, according to a press release. It contains 83 paintings by 49 artists from New Hampshire and other New England states, many of whom you can meet at the reception on Sunday, April 27, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Mill Brook. Call 226-2046 or visit themillbrookgallery.com, pastelsocietynh.com.

• **Free admission!** April vacation means free admission at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) from April 28 through May 2. The museum is always free for kids but not always for adults, making this a great activity for families during the week off from school; events that week include a Storytime in the Gallery on Monday, April 28, at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. (hear a re-imagined version of the classic children's song "This Old Man" and create your own take with words or drawings); Family Studio on Wednesday, April 30, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (create your own mythical creature through collage); a Dimensions in Dance performance on Thursday, May 1, from 1 to 1:30 p.m.; and a visit by storyteller Sebastian Lockwood on Friday, May 2, at 1 p.m. (which does require a $3 admission ticket). Visit currier.org, call 669-6144, ext. 108.

• **Also at the Currier:** The Zimmerman House tours opened for the season last Thursday, April 17. The tour provides visitors with a 90-minute exploration of the house, with information about Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture, the commission and design of the house, and the Zimmermans, who lived there for 36 years. Tours are Thursdays through Mondays at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., but reservations are required; admission is $20 for adults, $19 for seniors, $16 for students, $8 for children ages 8 to 17.

• **Sculpture Symposium begins:** The Nashua International Sculpture Symposium occurs again this May. Talented artists from around the world are currently prepping for their stay in Nashua to create downtown art, but the celebration starts with the locals on Saturday, May 3, at 1:30 p.m., at Nimco in the Millyard, 1 Pine St., Nashua. At this time, attendees will watch as molten iron is poured into their own hand-crafted molds. The workshop is directed by sculptor Joe Montroy, one of the Symposium artists from 2010. Cost for the workshop is $35 per person, and all materials are included, but space is limited to 65 people, and children need to be accompanied by an adult. Register by visiting nashuasculpturesymposium.org or cityartsnashua.org or by emailing nashua.sculpturesymposium.org. That next weekend is when the official symposium begins, with an opening reception on Thursday, May 8, from 6 to 8 p.m., also at Nimco in the MIllyard. This year's theme is "Dare to Create," and participating artists are Amgalan Tsevegmid from Mongolia, Lasha Khidashell from the Republic of Georgia and Kim Sunjin from Korea.

— *Kelly Sennott*

TON two-day visual and performing arts event on Fri., May 2, 3-5:30 p.m., and Sat., May 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at The Huntington, 55 Kent Lane Road, Nashua. Art by artists from Hollis Arts Society and World Academy, silent auction, performances by young pianists from the Mila Filatova Piano Academy in Manchester. Event also aims to support work of Veterans FIRST of Harbor Homes. Paintings, pastels jewelry, photography, fiber arts, etc. Free admission, donations encouraged. Visit thehuntingtonatnashua.org, hollisartssocietynh.com.

• **CURRIER MUSEUM SCAVENGER HUNT** on Fri., May 2, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org. Followed by New Hampshire storyteller Sebastian Lockwood who will bring Homer's *Odyssey* to life, recommended for kids ages 7 and older, storytelling event $3 per person.

• **IRON POUR WORKSHOP** on Sat., May 3, at 1:30 p.m., at Nimco in the Millyard, 1 Pine St., Nashua. Make mold with iron, take finished design home, directed by sculptor Joe Montroy, preview for Nashua Symposium 2014. Admission $35 per person, materials included, space limited. Visit nashuasculpturesymposium.org, visit cityartsnashua.org, email nashua.sculpture@gmail.com, registration required.

• **ARTISTS OF SALMON FALLS MILLS SPRING OPEN STUDIOS** on Sat., May 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sun., May 4, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Upper & Lower Mills, 1 Front St., Rollinsford, millarts.com. Free. More than 100 artists, live music, entertainment.

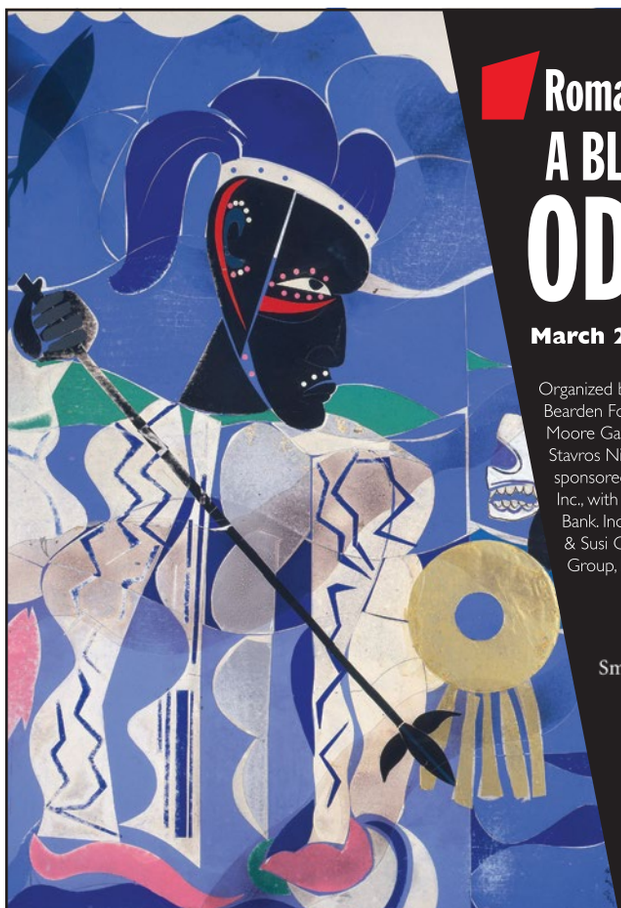
• **ART IN ACTION** at Mack's Apple Farm and Market, 230 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, on Sat., May 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sun., May 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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Surprising sounds

Granite State Ringers turn heads with handbell pop music

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com



The Granite State Ringers. Courtesy photo.

You might be surprised at what you hear at the Granite State Ringers' upcoming handbell concerts.

It's not Christmas music. It's not church music, either. In fact, some of the songs they're playing aren't remotely uplifting, like Adele's "Rolling in the Deep" and pieces from *Les Misérables*.

"It's a unique sound. … We do holiday concerts as well, and we play the Christmas stuff, but bells can do more than just Christmas music," said Joan Fossum, Granite State Ringers director and co-founder. "Bells are only as limiting as you choose to make them. Concerts like these show some of the things that can be done musically with handbells."

What might also come as a surprise, as it did for Landis Magnuson, is the quality of sound handbells can make. The Saint Anselm professor and Anselmian Abbey Players director had never heard anything quite like it when he and his family saw them play at Relay for Life last year.

Part of his awe had to do with his own handbell playing experience. He, his wife and daughter play handbells at their church in Manchester, so he had already garnered a special appreciation for the handbell sound.

"They're [GSR] holding multiple bells in each hand, and just by the flick of their wrist, they can make one bell in their left hand ring but not the other. Our jaws were on the floor," Magnuson said.

He was so enamored, in fact, that he helped organize a concert at his church, the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, in Manchester on April 27, one of four GSR upcoming concerts. The others are at the Congregational Church of Amherst, the Bow Mills United Methodist Church and Smith Memorial UCC. The concerts have a "Bells at Play" theme and include kid-friendly music as well.

"It's an eclectic mix, but it's all meant to be fun and energetic music that people will recognize," Fossum said.

Each ringer will manage as many as 10 bells at once. This requires a special technique that may mean holding two bells in each hand. The ringers might also have to switch bells mid-song.

Fossum says the music itself is relatable to piano music; each bell corresponds to one key on a piano.

Most handbell choirs are in churches, like Magnuson's, but the Granite State Ringers are on a different level than most. The 15 musicians — comprised of five octaves of bells, five and a half octaves of chimes — hold three-hour practices twice a month, with the expectation that they'll spend more time on their own learning the parts.

Fossum started Granite State Ringers in 2007 with Mary Divers. Their intention was to offer handbell musicians the chance to play more challenging music, and also to promote handbell repertoire to audiences all over the state. Current members come from all over, from Keene and Concord to Rochester and Meredith.

"At that point [in 2007], most of the [handbell] music was predominantly church-based ringing. Our thinking was to extend an opportunity to ring a different kind of music, and perhaps some music with a little more difficulty," Fossum said.

Fossum has been playing handbells for 25 years now. She picked up the art abroad while her husband was stationed in Germany. When he was re-stationed in Texas, she became more involved in the handbell scene there.

"There's a team concept to playing this instrument. It takes a group of 13 to 15 people to do what we do," Fossum said. "It's part of the attraction."

Most of their regular concerts are in churches, but they're looking to ring alongside the Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra next fall, and Fossum would like to expand to other venues as well.

"It's a unique sound," Fossum said.

See the Granite State Ringers

Congregational Church of Amherst, 11 Church St., Amherst, on Saturday, April 26, at 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 for adults, $8 for children 12 and younger.
Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 65 Sagamore St., Manchester, on Sunday, April 27, at 3 p.m. Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for children, $18 for a family of four or more
Bow Mills United Methodist Church, 505 South St., Bow, on Saturday, May 3, at 7 p.m., $10 for adults, $5 for children, $18 for family four or more, proceeds benefit GSR and Bow Mills UMC Campership Fund
Smith Memorial UCC, 30 W. Main St., Hillsboro, on Sunday, May 4, at 3 p.m., $10 adults, $5 children, $18 family four or more
Contact: rebeccabutler246.wix.com/granitestateringers

Artists work on 2D paintings in oil, pastel, acrylic, watercolor, colored pencil, charcoal, etc. Open to public.

• **NASHUA INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE SYMPOSIUM** opening reception Thurs., May 8, 6-8 p.m., at Ultima Nimco in the Millyard, One Pine St., Nashua, $10 donation appreciated. Three weeks, three international artists create sculptures for the city, public welcome to visit Mon. through Sat., 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., May 9 through May 30 in the Millyard. Closing ceremony Sat., May 31, at 1 p.m., location to be determined. Email nashua.sculpture@gmail.com, visit cityartsnashua.org.

• **PECHAKUCHA NIGHT #19: SUDDENLY BLOOM!** at the Strawbery Banke Visitor Center (14 Hancock St., Portsmouth, 433-1100) on Thurs., May 8, at 7 p.m. Free, donations accepted. Artists present ideas or projects on this theme out of adversity, change, turning points, epiphanies, etc., in 20 slides, 20 seconds per slide. If interested in presenting, email cladd@3Sarts.org.

• **GALLERY AT NASHUA ROTARY COMMON** event on Sat., May 10, at 1 p.m., at 315 Main St., Nashua. Dedication ceremony for 180-foot wall gallery that celebrates Nashua's past, present, future in art, featuring photos by Yusuf Abudi.

Exhibit openings

• **JANICE DONNELLY** shows oil paintings and prints rendered in oils at The Healing Tree Wellness Center and Spa, 24 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry, janicedonnelly.com, now through June 10. She also shows her work at E.W. Poore, 775 Canal St., Manchester, now through June 21, with a reception on Thurs., April 24, 5-8 p.m.

• **JOHN BENFORD** portion of his series, "Grounding: Small New England Farms" is on permanent display at the Farm at Eastman's Corner, at the intersection of Routes 107 and 150 in Kensington. Exhibition can be viewed during business hours, artist's reception on Thurs., April 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m., feature brief gallery talk by artist and local wine/cheese tasting with wine from Jewell Towne Vineyard in South Hampton, NH. Visit eastmanscorner.com, johnbenfordphoto.com.

• **"RESONANCE"** at the Drift Contemporary Art Gallery, Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion (375 Little Harbor Road, Portsmouth, 379-6560, art@drift-gallery.com, drift-gallery.com) on view now through June 10. Reception on Sat., April 26, 5-8 p.m. Featuring works in bold color, abstract, sculpture, etc. Exhibition space also reveals narrative of "Horace and Agnes: A Love Story" by photographer Asia Kepka with stories by Lynn Dowling.

• **MARY ROSE O'CONNELL** shows "Essential Impressions" at Whistler House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen St., Lowell, whistlerhouse.org, 978-452-7641, April 9 through May 18, reception Sat., April 26, 2-4 p.m. Collection of portrait, figurative, still life, landscape paintings.

• **ANTHONY MOORE** presents "Pavise" at Alva de Mars Megan Chapel Art Center, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Way, Manchester, through April 30. Faculty noontime lecture on Tues., April 29, at 12:30 p.m., by Dr. Andrew Laurie Stangel, "Aristotle and the Substance of the Catholic Mass: The Transubstantiation of the Eucharist in the History of Art." Call 641-7000, visit anselm.edu.

• **"SPRING 2014"** on view at the Gallery at 100 Market St., Portsmouth, featuring 150 works by 30 artists from New England, on view April 25 through July 18. Reception Fri., April 25, 5-7 p.m. Also featuring photographer Michael Winters and painter Marilene Sawaf.

• **"COVETED SHADOWS: FASHION. THE BODY. PORTRAITS."** photographic exhibition with work by Anthony Grassetti at The SOPHA, LLC, 15 Merrill St., Manchester, thesopha.com, 782-8403, on Sat., April 26, at 6:30 p.m., after party at 11 p.m. at Club 313.

• **"GIONA SEZOHA G'DAKINNA: WE PAINT OUR LAND"** on view at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, May 1 through June 13. First exhibition devoted to contemporary Native American fine arts. Opening reception Sun., May 4, 2-4 p.m. Visit indianmuseum.org.

• **NH INSTITUTE OF ART CERTIFICATE AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM** exhibition at the Amherst Street (77 Amherst St., Manchester) and French Building (148 Concord St., Manchester) galleries April 15 through May 2, with a closing night ceremony then from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Featuring work by the graduates of the certificate program.

• **LAURA KILMARTIN** visits Nesmith Library, 8 Fellows Road, Windham, 432-7154, on Sat., May 3, at 3 p.m., to talk about her first novel, *Next Year I'll Be Perfect*. Visit lau-



POST 1950'S ART

The New Hampshire Antique Co-op (323 Elm St., Route 101A, Milford, 673-8499) hosts an exhibition, "Abstract & Modernism: 1950s to Today," from now through Aug. 31. It contains a show and sale of paintings by artists representative of this post-war cultural and artistic movement, according to a press release, with highlighted pieces by Louise Nevelson, Paul Jenkins, Walasse Ting, Karel Appel and Robert Hughes. There's a reception on Sunday, April 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Upstairs Gallery, which will include everything that makes art even better: wine, cheese and conversation. Pictured, "Wood Sculpture" by Robert Hughes. Courtesy image.

rakilmartin.com.

• **AUTOMATIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION** exhibition by Boston's AMICA area chapter at 119 Gallery, 119 Chelmsford St., Lowell, 978-452-8138, 119gallery.org, April 15 through May 10. Reception Sun., April 27, 1-5 p.m.

• **"PERFECT PITCH: ART INSPIRED BY MUSIC"** on view at Studio 550, now through May 3 at the studio, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 550arts.com, info@550arts.com, 232-5597. Closing reception on Thurs., April 24, 5-8 p.m.

• **"ABSTRACT & MODERNISM: 1950S TO TODAY"** exhibition at New Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St./Route 101A, Milford, 673-8499, on view April 1 through Aug. 31. Reception Sun., April 27, 1-3 p.m.

• **LUCY GOLDEN** Exeter Fine Crafts Artist of the Month for May. Jewelry on view at the gallery, 61 Water St., Exeter, through the month. Reception on Sat., May 10, between noon and 3 p.m. Call 778-8282.

• **"AHEAD OF THE CURVE: EXPLORATION OF ANGELS, LINES AND SHAPES"** Seacoast Photography Association show on view at Exeter Town Hall (7 Front St., Exeter) April 26 through May 18. During three-week exhibition, gallery open Saturdays and Sundays, noon-4 p.m., with Art Talks each Saturday 12:30-1:30 p.m. Visit seacoastphotographers.org.

• **9TH ANNUAL PASTEL SOCIETY OF NH MEMBERS FINE ART EXHIBITION** on view at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, April 25 through May 31, opening reception on Sun., April 27, 2-4 p.m., with refreshments and awards ceremony. Free event. Call 226-2046, visit themillbrookgallery.com.

• **NH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXHIBITION** at Sharon Arts Center Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, opening reception on Fri., May 2, 5-7 p.m. Open to all 9th through 12th grade high school students in NH, reception on May 2 through June 14. Juried exhibition. Visit sharonarts.org.

• **ARTISTS SHOWCASE & OPEN MIKE NIGHT** at Nesmith Library, 8 Fellows Road, Windham, 432-7154, on Tues., April 29, at 6 p.m. Short readings, songs, dance, music, all other types of artistic endeavors welcome.

• **BET YARBOROUGH** shows "I've Got My Back: Paintings and Prints" at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, May 6 through June 6. Reception on Fri., May 9, 5-7 p.m. Call 225-2515, visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **CONCORD WEALTH MANAGEMENT ART SHOW** in partnership with Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden at 11 S. Main St., Concord, Suite 600, showing paintings, pottery, photos, sculptures by regional artists, on Thurs., May 8, 5-8 p.m. Celebrating Mother's Day, first 50 mothers receive flower courtesy D. McLeod Florist.

• **"SHIFT: THE ART OF THE BICYCLE"** on view at Studio 550 May 5 through June 28, at the studio, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 550arts.com, info@550arts.com, 232-5597. Opening reception on Sat., May 10, 7:30-9 p.m.

• **"DREAMSCAPES"** with art by painter Danielle M. LeBris at the Hancock Town Library, Main St., Hancock, May 10 through June 19. Opening day Sat., May 10, 2-4 p.m. reception. Show can be viewed during library hours, call 525-4411 before attending.

• **"TAKE A CLOSER LOOK"** at Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, on view during May. Reception on Thurs., May 15, 4-6 p.m.

• **THE MEMBERS SHOW** at The SOPHA, 15 Merrill St., Manchester, on Sat., May 31, 6:30-10 p.m., thesopha.com, 782-8403.

• **NHIA PREVIEW PARTY SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER** on Sat., May 17, 6-9 p.m., at French Building, 148 Concord St., Manchester; at Amherst Street Building, 77 Amherst St., Manchester; and Lowell Street Building, 88 Lowell St., Manchester. Tickets $40 individual, $60 couple, allows attendees to review and purchase Institute student artwork before the annual student exhibition. Hors d'oeuvres, more than 1,000 pieces of artwork. Visit nhia.edu/preview-party, call 836-2546.

In the galleries

• **"MEMENTO MORI"** on view at the Belknap Mill, 25 Beacon St. East, Laconia, now through April 26. Visit belknapmill.org, call 524-8813.

• **"TIME OUT"** featuring sabbatical work by NHIA members on view at the Sharon Arts Center Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, now through April 26. Visit nhia.edu/exhibitions-presentations.

• **"VERY VARIED VIEWS"** show featuring work by Judy McLean and Meg Tatro at East Colony Fine Art, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 621-7400, April 1 through April 26.

• **"COPPER WORK"** featuring art by James Sanner at Main Street Art, 75 Main St., Newfields, newfieldsart.org, 580-5835, on view through April 26.

• **"NEW ENGLAND SCENES"** art by Sandy Wadlington and Melissa Anne Miller at LaBelle Winery, 345 Route 101, Amherst, on view now through April. Email michelle@labellewinerynh.com, call 672-9898.

• **"SIGNS FROM THE SIXTIES: ROBERT INDIANA'S DECADE"** on view at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, through April 30. Visit currier.org.

• **"ART ON THE WALL AT CITY HALL"** Francophone Art Exhibit at 1 City Hall Plaza,











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ARTS

CURTAIN CALL

Notes from the theater scene



M. Marguerite Mathews and Greg Gathers bring *Isles of Shoals: Eternal Sound of the Sea* to life onstage in Portsmouth. Courtesy photo.

• **By local artists:** Created and performed by Pontine Theatre's artistic co-directors M. Marguerite Mathews and Greg Gathers, *Isles of Shoals: Eternal Sound of the Sea* hits center stage at the West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, starting next Thursday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. The script is drawn from the writings of New England authors Celia Thaxter and Nathaniel Hawthorne — specifically, those that explore and describe the history and folklore of the islands, from the early settlement through the Victorian era, as described in the press release.

Other showtimes are Friday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 3, at 4 p.m.; Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m.; Thursday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 10, at 4 p.m.; and Sunday, May 11, at 2 p.m. Tickets are $24, and can be purchased at the door or online at pontine.org. Email info@pontine.org, call 436-6660.

• **For the love of music and theater:** The Souhegan Valley Chorus hosts a concert on Saturday, May 3, at 7 p.m., at the Amato Center for the Arts, 56 Mont Vernon Road, Milford. It'll be "A Night on Broadway," with music from popular Broadway musicals like *The Lion King*, *Les Misérables*, *Chicago* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

The theme, director Jennifer Erdody said in a press release, came about through members' love of and involvement in musical theater.

"Our members are heavily involved in musical theater in the Milford area," Erdody said. "Within our ranks are directors, musical directors, costumers, actors and actresses, choreographers and dancers. We even have a young lady who is working as a stage manager for Bette Midler's show this summer in New York."

Prior to the event, there's a Chocolate Silent Auction fundraiser at 5 p.m. Admission is $15, free for children 12 and younger. If you miss this event, there will be another concert, a "1950s Showcase," on Saturday, June 7, at 7 p.m., at the First Congregational Church, 10 Union St., Milford. Visit souheganvalleychorus.org.

• **Local theaters rolling it in:** The Palace Theatre in Manchester recently received a $15,000 donation from members of First Credit Union for the Palace Theatre's Second Century Campaign, which will be used for much-needed theater improvements and safety upgrades, according to a release.

Farther south, the Merrimack Repertory Theatre in Lowell received a National Endowment Grant for the Arts, one of 886 nonprofit organizations worldwide to receive one. MRT was recommended for the $20,000 grant in support of its production, *Year Zero*, a play by Michael Golamco that will launch the company's 2014-2015 season in September.

— *Kelly Sennott*

Manchester, now through April. Presented by Manchester Arts Commision.

• **"THE TAME ONES"** at Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter, 778-8856, on view now through April.

• **BETSY JANEWAY** exhibits work at NH Audubon McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, through April. Part of NH Audubon's centennial events and "Welcome Back" series, display of landscape paintings. Visit nhaudubon.org.

• **PEGGY LIPIN** nine-painting show through April on view at Leach Library (276 Mammoth Road, Londonderry). Acrylic artist from Hooksett.

• **"WATERCOLORS OLD AND NEW, NEAR AND FAR"** exhibition by artist/naturalist Betsy Janeway at NH Audubon's McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, nhaudubon.org, 226-0902) now through April. Paintings of landscapes, images, places things held dear.

• **HOLLIS ARTS SOCIETY** 2nd Annual Juried Show on view now through April 27 at the Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey. Visit hollisartssocietynh.com.

• **NH PLEIN AIR ARTISTS MEMBERS EXHIBIT** at Coffeeberries, 4 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry, on view through April 30. Visit NHPleinAir.com, facebook.com/NHPleinAirArtists.

• **"FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD"** food-related paintings by Seacoast artist Mary Byrom on view at the Kennedy Gallery and Custom Framing, 41 Market St., Portsmouth, 436-7007, through April.

• **"PONDERING THE UNTHINKABLE"** new sculp-



WHEN POETRY AND SONG COLLIDE

Former New Hampshire Poet Laureate John Perrault provides an evening of poetry and song on Tuesday, April 29, at 6:30 p.m., at the Exeter Public Library, 4 Chestnut St., Exeter, 772-3101, exeterplref@gmail.com. He'll sing lyrics by the world's greatest musicians and poets, Burns to Wordsworth, Keats to Frost, according to a press release. The program is free and open to the public, and it occurs in the Bruce Sloan Reading Area in the adult services section of the library. Pictured, John Perreault. Courtesy photo.

ture by Andy Moerlein at New England College Gallery, 15 Main St., Henniker, now through May 1.

• **"FLOWERS, ORCHARDS AND MOUNTAINS: PAINTINGS BY BRUCE MCCOLL"** on view at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, now through May 2. Call 225-2515, visit mcgowanfineart.com, email art@mcgowanfineart.com.

• **"EXPLORING THE CURRIER INSIDE OUT: ANDREW WITKIN"** exhibit through May 11 at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org. Part of Contemporary Connections.

• **SNHU 8TH ANNUAL STUDENT EXHIBIT** at the McInnch Art Gallery, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester, on view through May 3 p.m. Includes work like magazine layouts, logos, photography, illustrations, character and environment designers, posters, brochures, short animation/videos.

• **"IMAGES REAL AND IMAGINED"** paintings by Mary Wood Cornog at Daniels Room of Hancock Town Library, 25 Main St., Hancock, on view now through May 8. Visit marycornog.com, call 525-4411.

• **R.P. HALE** shows work at UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester, through May 22. "Wood Engraved Prints," call 641-4101, visit manchester.unh.edu.

• **"SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT I: COLLEGE OF THE REDWOOD"** NH Furniture Masters' exhibition at the gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord, now through May 30, furnituremasters.org. Call 566-6368.

Open call

• **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: CANTERBURY SHAKER VILLAGE** to participate in "Shaker Traditions, Contemporary Translations," looking for pieces that showcase village visitors and members who are inspired to translate Shakers' commitment to simplicity and mindfulness in personal expressions, submissions due by April 30. Visit shakers.org, call 783-9511, email fburdick@shakers.org.

• **NH CREATIVE CLUB JURIED ART EXHIBITION** call for entries, accepting submissions from artists, graphic designers, copywriters, illustrators, photographers, videographers, etc., for show at 1000 Elm St., Manchester, starting June 17, on view a month. Entries must have been produced between April 27 and May 2. Registration fee $20. Visit nhcreativeclub.org for more details.

Classical

• **UNH CONCERT BAND & UNH SYMPHONIC BAND** perform at Johnson Theater, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham, on Thurs., April 24, at 8 p.m. Free event. Visit unh.edu/music, call 862-2404.

• **UNH DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC STUDENT COMPOSERS** perform on Fri., April 25, at 8 p.m., at Bratton Recital Hall, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Free concert. Visit unh.edu/music, call 862-2404.

• **SPRING CHOICE, SPRING SINGERS** concert by the CSC Singers on Fri., April 25, at 7 p.m., in the Sawyer Center Theater (541 Main St., New London). Tickets available at colby-sawyer.edu/tickets, through 526-3670, boxoffice@colby-sawyer.edu.

• **UNH WIND SYMPHONY, ANDREW BOYSEN JR.** conducting on Sun., April 27, at 3 p.m., at Paul Creative Arts Center, Bratton Hall, 30 Academic Way, Durham, 862-2404, unh.edu/music. Free.

• **"DEDICATED TO THE ONE I LOVE"** pianist Gregg Pauley in conjunction with Concord Community Music School performs four of Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas in third of nine concerts, part of his series, "A State of Wonder: The 32 Piano Sonatas of Beethoven," on Fri., May 2, at 7:30 p.m., at CCMS Recital Hall, 23 Wall St., Concord. Tickets $15, visit ccmusicschool.org, call 228-1196.

• **MUSIC FROM STAGE & SCREEN NH** Gay Men's Chorus on Sat., May 3, at 7:30 p.m., at Nashua Community College, Judd Gregg Hall Auditorium, 505 Amherst St., Nashua; Sun., May 4, at 4 p.m., at Wesley United Methodist Church, 79 Clinton St., Concord; Sat., May 17, at 7:30 p.m., at Christ Episcopal Church, 1035 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth; and Sun., May 18, at 4 p.m., at Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester. Tickets $20. Visit nhgmc.com.

• **A NIGHT ON BROADWAY** choral concert with musical theater numbers by the Souhegan Valley Chorus on Sat., May 3, at 7 p.m. Tickets $15, visit souheganvalleychorus.org. Chocolate Silent Auction fundraiser that night at 5 p.m.

• **FRIENDS OF BEDFORD LIBRARY CONCERT** with Patriot Drum and Fife Duo on Sun., May 4, 2:30-3:30 p.m., at the library, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-2978, bedford.lib.nh.us. Free.

• **DEBORRAH WYNDHAM** pianist performs free concert at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, Tues., May 6, at 7 p.m. Wide variety of music, ragtime and jazz to contemporary.

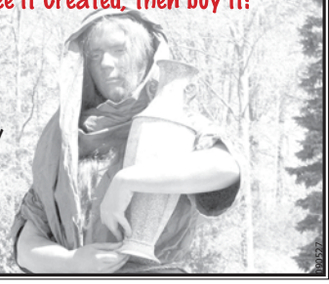
• **UNH JAZZ BANDS** perform at Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham, on Wed., April 30, at 8 p.m. Classics and contemporary writers. Call 862-2404, visit unh.edu/music.

• **UNH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** conducted by David Upham final concert of season Thurs., May 1, at 8 p.m., at Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Free, call 862-2404, visit unh.edu/music.

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The Rochester Opera House (30 Wakefield St., Rochester, rochesteroperahouse.com) will be home to a rendition of The Wizard of Oz this weekend, complete with special effects, aerial dancers and a long yellow brick road that audiences can follow, leading right to the theater at Rochester City Hall. Showtimes are Thursday, April 24, at 7 p.m.; Friday, April 25, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 26, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, April 27, at 2 p.m. Tickets are $7 per person. Call 335-1992. Courtesy photo.

• **FRENCH HORN STUDIO RECITAL** at Bratton Recital Hall, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham, 862-2404, on Sat., May 3, at 5 p.m. Free.

• **UNH CONCERT CHOIR AND CHAMBER SINGERS** at Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham, on Sun., May 4, at 3 p.m. Free, call 862-2404, visit unh.edu/music.

Theater

• ***THE WIZARD OF OZ*** at Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, now through April 27. Tickets $18-$22, call 335-1992, visit rochesteroperahouse.com.

• **PILOBOLUS** genre-twisting, body-bending contemporary dance performances at Dana Center for the Humanities, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, on Sat., April 26, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets $36.75. Call 641-7700, email dana@anselm.edu.

• ***RADIO SILENCE: DEATH ON THE AIR*** murder mystery dessert theater at the Franklin Opera House (316 Central St., City Hall, Franklin) on Sat., April 26, at 7:30 p.m. Table seating $24, balcony seating (dessert optional) $16. Visit franklinoperahouse.org, email info@franklinoperahouse.org.

• ***ARIA DA CAPO*** **AND** ***CHAMBER MUSIC*** one-act plays at Manchester West High School, Robert A. Baines Auditorium, 9 Notre Dame Ave., Manchester, theatreknights.com, 540-1198, on Fri., April 24, at 7 p.m.; Sat., April 25, at 7 p.m.; and Sun., April 26, at 7 p.m. Other tickets, $7 adults, $3 children, $5 seniors/students.

• ***WOYZECK*** at Janice B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua, performed by Ghostlight Theatre, on Thurs., April 24, at 8 p.m.; Fri., April 25, at 8 p.m.; Sat., April 26, at 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets $20, visit gltne.org.

• ***THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF COMEDY (ABRIDGED)*** written and directed by Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor April 24 through May 18 at Nancy L. Donahue Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell. Visit mrt.org, call 978-654-4678. Tickets $20-$60. Presented by The Reduced Shakespeare Company.

• ***A CHORUS LINE*** at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, April 25 through May 17. Tickets range in price, $15 to $45. Visit palacetheatre.org, call 668-5588.

• ***HARVEY*** at Garrison Players Arts Center, Route 4, Rollinsford, Fri., May 2, at 8 p.m.; Sat., May 3, at 8 p.m.; Sun., May 4, at 3 p.m.; Fri., May 9, at 8 p.m.; Sat., May 10, at 8 p.m.; Sun., May 11, at 3 p.m.; Fri., May 16, at 8 p.m.; and Sat., May 17, at 8 p.m. Tickets $18. Visit garrisonplayers.org, call 750-4ART.

• ***HOTEL LAPUTTS*** farce written and directed by NH's Wallace J. Pineault, presented by Community Players of Concord on Fri., May 2, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., May 3, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., May 4, at 2 p.m., at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets $16, visit communityplayersofconcord.org, call 344-4747, email nhdm40@comcast.net.

• ***ISLES OF SHOALS: ETERNAL SOUND OF THE SEA*** on Thurs., May 1, at 7:30 p.m.; Fri., May 2, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., May 3, at 4 p.m.; Sun., May 4, at 2 p.m.; Thurs., May 8, at 7:30 p.m.; Fri., May 9, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., May 10, at 4 p.m.; and Sun., May 11, at 2 p.m., at West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, pontine.org, info@pontine.org, 436-6660.

• **DIMENSIONS IN DANCE** performance on Thurs., May 1, 1-2 p.m., at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org, 669-6144, original choreography inspired by the art of Romare Bearden. Admission free.

• ***AMATEURS*** performed by Nashua Theatre Guild at Janice B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua, on Thurs., May 1, at 8 p.m.; Fri., May 2, at 8 p.m.; Sat., May 3, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sun., May 4, at 2 p.m. General admission $15. Visit nashuatheatreguild.org, call 880-0243.

• ***STUART LITTLE*** performance on Fri., May 9, at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., at Dana Center for the Humanities, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Call 641-7700, email dana@anselm.edu for pricing.

• ***MARIE ANTOINETTE: THE COLOR OF FLESH*** by Joel Gross at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, May 9 through May 25, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays May 11 and May 18 at 7 p.m., Sun., May 25, at 2 p.m. Tickets $15, call 436-8123, visit playersring.org.

• ***THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE*** on Fri., May 9, at 10 a.m., at Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Tickets $6-8. Visit stockbridgetheatre.com, call 437-5210.

• ***THE MUSIC MAN*** produced by Nashua Actorsingers on Fri., May 9, at 8 p.m.; Sat., May 10, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., May 11, at 2 p.m., at Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Admission $20 for adults, $18 for students/seniors. Visit actorsingers.org, call 320-1870.

• **TEENS ROCK ROCHESTER** concert presented by Rocking Horse Studio and StopTime Productions, five local bands, on Sun., May 18, 3-6 p.m., winner crowned at end, at Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992. Tickets $5.

• ***ONCE UPON A TIME*** Seacoast Repertory Theatre Senior Moments, all-volunteer performance group for seniors by seniors, on Wed., May 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, seacoastrep.org. Tickets $15 at the door.

Auditions/open calls

• **AUDITIONS:** ***AS YOU LIKE IT*** for Nashua Theatre Guild Shakespeare in the Park production on Sun., April 27, at 1 p.m., and Mon., April 28, at 7 p.m., at 14 Court St., Nashua. To be performed late July and early August at Greeley Park as part of Nashua Summerfun. Call 880-0243, visit the Guild's Facebook page for details.

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Get Listed

From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Puppy parade

Bow Wow Fest for K-9s

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

On May 3, dogs will parade up and down the WOW Trail in Laconia for the 4th Annual Bow Wow Fest, a fundraiser for local police departments' K-9 units that includes "Wag-It Games" and a pooch parade.

If you have a pup who wants to participate or you just want to watch the fun, it all starts at 7:30 a.m. at the head of the trail at Lake Opechee Inn and Spa.

"To my knowledge, it's the only dog parade in New Hampshire. After a long winter, it's great to get out, and whether you have a dog or not, it's great to come and see all of the different species," said Claire Hebert, community relations executive at Melcher & Prescott Insurance, which sponsors the event.

"The Bow Wow event [is] to help our local police departments' K-9 divisions better keep our public resources safe," said Chris Volpe, CEO of Melcher & Prescott Insurance. "Of course, we are also animal lovers and it pleases us to be able to help ensure the health of both Ike and Titan."



Michelle Dupont, Innkeeper of the Lake Opechee Inn & Spa, Gretchen Gandini, Executive Director of the WOW Trail, Adam Vansteensburg and his dog, Ike, of the Gilford Police K-9 Department, Chris Volpe, CIC, VP and CEO of Melcher & Prescott Insurance, Claire Hebert, Community Relations Executive of Melcher & Prescott Insurance and Annie Boissoneau, Human Resource Manager of Lake Opechee Inn & Spa out front of the beginning of the WOW Trail. Kaitlin Joseph photo.

BOW WOW Fest

Where: Lake Opechee Inn, 62 Doris Ray Court, Laconia
When: Saturday, May 3, from 7:30 to 11 a.m.
7:30 – 8:45 a.m. Registration – Vendor Visits/K-9 Demonstration
8:50 a.m. Pet Blessing
9 – 10:15 a.m. Parade/Costume Judging
10:15 – 11 a.m. Wag-It Games Awards
Cost: $10
Contact: Claire Hebert, 524-4535, chebert@melcher-prescott.com
Visit: wowtrail.org

Ike and Titan are two of the dogs that work with police departments in the area. Ike will be at the parade with Officer Adam Vansteensburg of the Gilford Police Department. Vansteensburg will give a demonstration on what it's like to work with a police dog and how it helps the community.

"Part of today's best police practice is to connect with the community, not just in the worst of times but also in the best of times," Laconia Police Chief Chris Adams said. "From its inception, the Bow Wow Fest has focused on bringing families with and without canines together for a kick-start to spring as well as supporting our K-9's with donations."

Along with the dog parade, there will be a pet blessing from the local church, a costume judging competition and "Wag-it Games," where awards will be given out based on agility.

Kids can come to watch the dogs and do other activities like face painting, and the first 100 will receive a dog balloon animal.

"This year the Laconia Fire Department is loaning us their newest ladder fire truck so kids can go over, chat with a firemen and probably climb some portion of the fire truck on the premise the entire time," Hebert said.

The WOW Trail was built four years ago with the initiative to create a rail trail for walking in the Lakes Region, connecting Lake Winnipesaukee, Lake Winnisquam and Lake Opechee through Laconia and neighboring towns.

"[This event is] about public recognition for the trail and meeting others and their dogs. It's a common awareness, and it's a donation to the K-9 dogs," Hebert said.

Pre-registration deadline for dog owners is Thursday, April 24 ($10 with free T-shirt); thereafter, it's $10 plus $5 for a T-shirt. Registration forms can be found at wowtrail.org.

Bake/yard sales/ fundraisers/auctions

• **FLEA MARKET** with St. Marie's Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary Unit #1749 at the Sacred Heart Church Basement (275 S. Main St., Manchester, 627-7958) on Sat., April 26, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **SILENT AUCTION** to support Capital City Children's Camp at the Word of Life Christian Fellowship (95 Old Loudon Road, Concord, wordoflifenh.org) from Sun., April 27, through Thurs., May 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day.

• **LOTTERY COCKTAIL PARTY** on Fri., May 2, at 5:30 p.m. to fundraise for the Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992). The party will have music, games, auctions and a chance to win $10,000. Tickets are 2 for $100.

• **SPRING-A-FAIR** at the First Congregational Church of Pembroke (301 Pembroke St., Pembroke, pembrokechurch.org) on Sat., May 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. will be a craft fair with homemade items, flowers and baked goods. There will also be lunch, raffles, a balloon artist and face-painting.

• **SPRING CONCERT** at the Union Congregational Church (80 Main St., Union) on Sun., May 4, from 4 to 6 p.m. with a variety of musical performances in all genres as a fundraiser for the church. Free will offerings will be accepted and there will be refreshments offered. Call Betty at 473-2727 for more information.

• **RAFFLE, FLEA MARKET AND BAKE SALE** at the Wentworth Association (100 Coventry Court, Merrimack) on May 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Money raised will benefit the Tourette's Syndrome Research Foundation and local food pantries.

• **SPRING FEST 2014 BY APPLEWOOD LEARNING CENTER** at Searles School and Chapel (3 Chapel Road, Windham, 434-3139, applewoodlc.org) on Sat., May 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be vendors, food, raffles, activities and entertainment. Cost is $5.

• **ANNUAL TOY SWAP/SALE** with the Londonderry Women's Club on Sat., May 17, from 7:30 a.m. to noon at Matthew Thornton School Gym (225 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, hooleykimberly2@gmail.com, londonderrywomensclub.com).

• **AUBURN MEMORIAL DAY BAZAAR** on Sunday, May 25, from 3 p.m. until dusk with the Auburn Mom's Club (Auburn, auburnmomsclub.org). There will be all kinds of different vendors selling their products.

Expos/festivals/fairs

• **HOME SHOW** with Alton Rotary Club will be at Prospect Mountain High School (242 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, 776-3745, bolster@worldpath.net) on Sat., April 26. There will be raffles to win a TV, computer, blu-ray DVD player and a digital camera among other items. Registration forms for businesses and professionals can be found at altonrotart.org.

• **10TH ANNUAL NH RENAISSANCE FAIRE** on Sat., May 10 and Sun., May 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be local craft merchants, jousting knights, may pole dancing, belly dancers, pirate, magicians, face painting, food and more. Cost is $12 for adults and $8 for kids, under 4 are free. The fair will also be on Sat., May 17 and Sun., May 18, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (9 Thorne Road, Kingston, nhrenfaire.com).

• **BRICKFAIR NEW ENGLAND** at the Radisson Hotel (700 Elm St., Manchester, brickfair.com) will be on Sun., May 10, and Sat., May 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be lots of Legos for adults and children to enjoy. Tickets are $9.

IN/OUT

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend



Bears, dogs and fisher cats

Listen to children's author Jeannie Brett read her new book, ***Wild About Bears,*** at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrensmuseum.org) on Saturday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kids can take pictures with a costumed bear and view a demonstration of drawing illustrations.

Head down to White Park (1 White St., Concord) on Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the **2nd Annual Bark in the Park: Canines for K-9.** The free event will have demonstrations, competitions and educational opportunities for families about dogs and the police K-9 program. Stand on the sidelines to watch the costume parade and best trick competition. Donations benefit the restoration of the K-9 Unit at the Concord Police Department.

Hit the ballpark to see the **New Hampshire Fisher Cats**, a Double-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays, at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium (1 Line Drive, Manchester, 641-2005, nhfishercats.com) for a home game on Friday, April 25, at 6:35 p.m. versus the Reading Fightin' Phils. There are two other games against Fightin' Phils, on Saturday, April 26, at 5:05 p.m. and Sunday, April 27, at 1:35 p.m.

Parents night out

If you need a night out, leave your kids at KinderCare Learning Center (3 Holiday Circle, Nashua, 897-1255, kindercare.com) on Friday, April 25, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. It's parents night out for you, but a movie night in for your kids. ***Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*** will be shown and kids can eat dinner, do crafts and play games.

A fair and a show

Join in the fun at **Family Fun Fair** day on Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the NH Sportsplex (68 Technology Drive, Bedford, nhsportsplex.com). The fair will include live performances, bounce houses, farm animals, arts and crafts, face painting, mascots, magicians and more. Tickets are $5 per person or $20 per family. All proceeds from the fair will benefit the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester.

All aboard at the **Model Train Show**, on Sunday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the David R. Cawley Middle School (89 Whitehall Road, Hooksett, hooksett.k12.nh.us/cms). Trains will be laid out and chugging along the tracks for spectators. Vendors and raffles will be at the show as well. Tickets are $4 for adults and $1 for kids.

Outdoor fun

It's World Tai Chi and Qigong Day! **Learn tai chi and qigong** with the Oriental Healing Arts Association (wusu.com) at Livingston Park (DW Highway, Manchester) on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be a group qigong at 9:30 a.m. followed by group tai chi and various demonstrations of different tai chi forms. All ages are welcome to attend to learn more about this mind and body wellness activity. Instructors will be on hand to offer demos and answer questions.

Take a hike with the Fells Historic Estate and Gardens (456 Route 103A, Newbury, 763-4789, ext. 3, thefells.org) on Saturday, April 26, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The hike will look for vernal pools and provide education about these temporary habitats.

Walks and runs

Walk in the **March of Dimes** for babies walk on Saturday, April 26, at 9 a.m. at the Merrimack Premium Outlets (80 Premium Outlets Boulevard, Merrimack, 228-0317, marchofdimes.com). Registration for the walk starts at 8 a.m. Form a team to raise $150 minimum entry.

Run in the **NE Diamond Gems 5K** at Stellos Stadium (7 Riverside St., Nashua, 562-9921, nhdiamondgems.com) on Sunday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is $25 on race day or $20 for pre-registration. Proceeds will help the New England Diamond Gems softball team.

Honor community first responders by running in the **Chief Maloney Unity Run** on Sunday, April 27, at 11 a.m. The race will start at the Stratham Police Department (76 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham) and end at the Greenland Police Department (579 Portsmouth Ave., Greenland). The course is a 10K and registration is $20. Early bib pick-up will be on Saturday, April 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Greenland Central School (70 Post Road, Greenland). Visit millenniumrunning.com/maloney.

Get yourself powder painted in **Color Me Rad 5K Run/Walk** on Sunday, April 27, at 10 a.m. in downtown Manchester. All proceeds will support New Horizons (199 Manchester St., Manchester, 688-1877, colormerad.com). Registration is $45.







Fall bulbs

Now is the time to decide where to plant

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

I've been paying attention to snowdrops and crocus since I was 9 years old — I recently found entries in my diary that tell me so. My entry for March 7, 1956, was this: "Spring is getting here at last the snow drops are in bud + will bloom in a few days." Then on April 5 I wrote, "Today our first crocus was in bloom it is very pretty." I still pay attention to them and generally note when they come into bloom. Now is the time to decide where you should plant bulbs next fall.

Here's what I do. I wander around my property each year in the spring to see what spots are bare of bulb flowers. I bring along those white plastic markers used for labeling, and write "add crocus here", for example. Then in the fall, when it's time to plant more bulbs, I don't have to rely on my memory.

When planting bulbs, I label what I've planted. That way I'll see what has performed well and be able to buy more of the same. For example, I'm always eager to get color in the garden at the same time that the snowdrops bloom. Glory-of-the-snow is one plant that overlaps with snowdrops but is a bit later, as is scilla. This spring I saw that a crocus I planted last fall, 'Blue Pearl,' is blooming with my snowdrops — and before those other two. So I'll buy 100 of those for fall planting. I bought them at Brent and Becky's Bulbs; I know because they include tags with each bag of bulbs.

Writing this in early April, I haven't seen any of my winter aconite appear, though I would have thought they would be up by now. It is a very early bright yellow flower that has 1-inch wide, six-petaled flowers. I've grown it before but lost it to cold or rodents or poor drainage. I'm still optimistic that it will show up.



Photo: Grape hyacinths. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

I tend to blame bulb failure on drainage problems, even though I mix in lots of compost at planting time and favor hillsides. South-facing hillsides are great for early bulbs, as the snow melts off weeks earlier than north-facing plots. But rodents might be the culprits, too.

A bulb plant that I've considered fussy is a low-growing iris, Iris reticulata. It is a lovely iris that blooms near the ground and has medium-sized blue, purple or (sometimes) yellow flowers. Doing some research, I found out why I thought they are fussy: after they bloom, the bulbs divide, producing several little bulblets. These won't bloom for a few years. So I need to plant some every year until I have a mature colony of them. I also read that they like soil that dries out well in summer, such as in a rock garden or sandy hillside.

My lawn is full of snowdrops that have planted themselves. I assume that they produce seeds that wash into the lawn with early summer rains. The bulk of my snowdrops are planted on a hillside above the lawn. But you can plant early spring bulbs in the lawn, too. Just don't plant daffodils or anything with large leaves because you won't be able to mow the lawn where they are growing until the leaves yellow and dry off, around July 4. Bulb plants need to re-charge their batteries, if you will, by getting sunshine and storing energy.

Little bulbs like snowdrops, crocus and grape hyacinths have short leaves that disappear early and won't disrupt your early mowing. You can always set the lawn mower blades high to protect the leaves if they are still green when you need to cut the lawn.

Grape hyacinths (Muscari spp.) are great little flowers that come in many different shades of blue and purple. I've planted many dozens in my day, but find they tend to lose vigor and disappear with time. So I plant them again. This spring I bought a pot of them at a garden center and have been enjoying them immensely in the house. Later, when the soil is thawed, I'll plant them outside. I keep the pot in a cool space indoors, as if they get too warm, they flop over.

Tulips I treat like annuals. I plant 100 most years in a bed that I reserve for them, and later zinnias. If I had depended on bulbs planted in 2012 for this year, the number of blooms might be just 50, and maybe 25 the following spring. So I don't bother to coddle them. In fact, I often pull the flower stem instead of cutting it, as I can get an extra 2-3 inches of stem for my vase, and I love tall tulips. I compost the spent bulbs. I find that adding a few pennies to the water in the vase helps the tulips to last longer before losing their petals, or opening if picked in bud.

Daffodils are slightly poisonous to deer and rodents, so they aren't eaten and can bloom for years. You can plant them in open woodlands and they will do fine. I grew up with daffodils planted along paths in our woods, and I still delight in the memory of them. By the way, if you forced paperwhites this winter, don't bother planting them outdoors — they're not hardy here.

Bulbs are a great investment. Most come back year after year, bringing me pleasure each year before the garden gets going.

Henry Homeyer is a gardening teacher, coach and public speaker. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746.

Pop culture

• **DIGITAL FILMMAKING WORKSHOPS** on May 3 and May 4, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with Back Lot Films at Cinderella Modeling Studio & Agency (50 Queen City Ave., Manchester, 206-4364). The workshop will cover producing, marketing and screening your independent film. Pricing is $275 for both days. More information at digitalfilmmakingworkshops.com.

• **SPRING FASHION SHOW** at Hollis Brookline High School (24 Cavalier Court, Hollis, candice.hancock@sau41.org, hollisbrooklinehighschool.org) on Wed., May 21, from 7 to 8 p.m. The show will feature four seasons with Catie's Closet, an organization collecting clothing for local students in need. Donations are kindly asked.

Pets

• **2ND ANNUAL BARK IN THE PARK: CANINES FOR K-9** at White Park (1 White St., Concord) on Sat., April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The free event will have demonstrations, competitions and educational opportunities for families. Watch the costume parade and best trick competition to benefit the restoration of the K-9 Unit at the Concord Police Department.

• **RABIES CLINIC** on Sat., April 26, from 9 a.m. to noon with the Hudson Junior Woman's Club at the Hudson Animal Control Facility (Hudson, 594-0332). There will also be dog licensing there. Cost is $15.

• **SEACOAST CAT CLUB CAT SHOW** at Everett Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord, 228-2784, seacoastcatclub.org) on Sat., May 3, at 9:30 a.m. Adults are $6, and kids are $4.

• **KITTY ANGELS FUNDRAISER** on May 3 and May 4, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Treasures Antiques (Amherst) will help to raise funds for cats to be adopted into their forever homes. There will be vendors there with crafts and yard sales. Contact Sherry at 672-2535 and visit treasuresnh.com.

• **EAST COAST BIKER CHICKS NH RIDE FOR THE ANIMALS** on Sat., May 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Thrifty's (1015 Candia Road, Salem, 320-4296). The motorcycle ride will benefit the Humane Society of Greater Nashua. $20 per rider and $10 per passenger.

• **PAWSITIVELY PETS EXPO** on Sat., May 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Daniel Webster College (20 University Drive, Nashua). Pets and their owners will visit vendors and see pet demonstrations. The Humane Society of Greater Nashua will be there with pets up for adoption.

Games

• **CARDS AND GAMES** at St. Mary's Church (38 Church St., Hillsboro, 464-5565, showerofroses.org) on Thurs., April 24, at 1 p.m.

• **BINGO** at St. Mary's Church (38 Church St., Hillsboro, 464-5565, showerofroses.org) on Fri., April 25, at 1 p.m.

• **BINGO** at the Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org) on Wed., April 30, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. All ages can play for a chance to win popular books.

• **MAHJONG** at the Bedford Public Library (3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford) meets on select Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 1 p.m. The group is currently seeking additional players. Those who are interested should contact the Bedford Recreation Department at 472-5242.

• **MAH JONGG** at Rye Public Library (581 Washington Road, Rye, 964-8401) Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m. Visit the library for American-style Mah Jongg. All levels welcome.

Car & motorcycle rides/races/cruises/shows/classes

• **SMART DRIVER CLASS** offered at St. Joseph Hospital (172 Kinsley St., Nashua, 882-3000, stjosephhospital.com/classes) on Thurs., April 24, from 9 a.m. to noon. Brush up on the current rules of road, defensive driving techniques and how to accommodate common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time. The class fee is $15.

Run safely

Clinic will provide self-defense and safety tips for runners

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com



Whether you run competitively or as a hobby, you'll probably be heading outdoors more often as the weather warms up. But do you know the rules of the road?

Crime Prevention Officer Paul Rondeau of the Manchester Police Department is hosting a clinic on runner safety, encouraged to do so by his wife, an avid runner.

"My job is to educate the public on how to stay safe," said Rondeau. "Essentially, people who run spend a huge amount of time outdoors in the public, and sometimes in areas where they aren't comfortable — you know, going out on long runs, new routes."

During the clinic Rondeau will talk about the rules of the road for runners and for motorists, clothing and safety accessories for runners, safety tools, destination races, Facebook and Twitter and some general safety tips.

"People often do things that they don't know affect their safety — like with posting on social media, you need to make sure it's private and no one is monitoring it," Rondeau said. "It's little things like that. If you post on Facebook or Twitter that you're going out for a run, they'll know your house is empty."

Rondeau said that one of the most common problems with runners is that they often run through intersections, or that they are not as visible as they should be to motorists.

"People don't always see [runners]," Rondeau said. "We're going to talk about runners' responsibilities and what they should wear. According to the Manchester city ordinance, you are required to wear reflective gear at night, which many people don't actually know."

Runner's Alley, which is sponsoring the event, will be at the clinic with clothing and safety accessories for runners to check out. Christina Dow, a nationally ranked kickboxer from The Training Station, will also be there to teach runners some basic self-defense techniques.

"She will be demonstrating techniques to escape attackers and tools that runners can carry with them to protect themselves," Rondeau said. "She'll teach basic escape techniques to prevent an attacker from trying to get ahold of you and to put distance between the victim and the attacker."

Rondeau said that runners should remember that attackers do not want you to bring attention to them, which is why he said it can be important to wear an armband with an alarm on it.

Rondeau also said that if you run in groups or with a partner and there's no sidewalk, it's important to run in a single file line instead of directly next to each other.

Other topics at the clinic will involve wearing headphones or carrying pepper spray with you — and why it might not be as good as you think.

"I would say the number one safety tip is to be aware of your surroundings at all times," said Rondeau.

There are still some open seats for the clinic. Interested runners should contact Rondeau to register.

"Runners are everywhere, and it's important that they feel safe, and we empower them to go out there and run with confidence and feel safe doing so," Rondeau said. "It's important to do a clinic like this to educate runners on their rights and what's expected of them and what's expected of motorists."

Runners Safety Clinic

Where: Manchester Police Department, 405 Valley St., Manchester
When: Monday, April 28, from 6 to 8 p.m.
Cost: Free
Contact: Officer Paul Rondeau, 792-5432 or email safetyclinic@manchesternh.gov
Visit: runnersalley.com, manchesterpd.com









1. 900 Degrees

TACO: **Blackened Chicken Taco**
Brick oven blackened chicken on a soft taco with red onion, lettuce diced tomato and topped with homemade cilantro cream sauce.
CHARITY: **Breathe New Hampshire**

2. B & B Café and Grill

TACO: **BBQ Chicken Taco**
Pulled BBQ Chicken taco topped with onions, tomato, romaine lettuce and Tzatziki sauce (Cucumber yogurt sauce).
CHARITY: **Animal Rescue League of NH**

3. Bāked

TACO: **Baked Dessert Taco**
CHARITY: **Autism Speaks**

4. Ben and Jerry's

TACO: **TBA**
CHARITY: **TBA**

5. Café La Reine

TACO: **Buffalo Chicken Taco**
Topped with lettuce,tomato and a drizzle of Ranch dressing.
CHARITY: **Manchester Animal Hospital**

6. Chateau

TACO: **Chicken**
Indian style chicken g cilantro sauce topped
CHARITY: **Kiwanis**

12. Drynk

TACO: **Drynk Taco**
CHARITY: **Paul and Harleegrace Journey for a Cure**

13. El Rincon Zacatecano Taqueria

TACO: **Discada**
Mixed meats W/Chorizo popular in Northern Mexico.
CHARITY: **Catholic Charities of Nashua**

14. The Farm Bar & Grille

TACO: **Pulled Pork**
Pulled pork with coleslaw.
CHARITY: **Manchester Animal Shelter**

15. Finesse Pastries

TACO: **Taco Fromage**
A cigarette cookie shell layered with a chocolate hazelnut cake soaked in Kahlúa, orange mascarpone cream, white chocolate "cheese" and buttercream lettuce and tomato.
CHARITY: **New Horizons Soup Kitchen**

16. Fire Fly American Bistro & Bar

TACO: **Tex-Mex Carne Asada Taco**
A 6-inch soft flour tortilla with carne asada, salsa verde and queso fresco
CHARITY: **Granite United Way**

17. Fratel

TACO: **Braised**
Pulled Pork Taco w/ Pico cream.
CHARITY: **TBA**

23. Hooked Seafood

TACO: **Fish Taco**
With a spring mix of greens, pico de gallo and a cayenne lime aioli.
CHARITY: **New Horizons**

24. Ignite Bar & Grille

TACO: **TBA**
CHARITY: **New Horizons**

25. Jade Dragon

TACO: **Beef Teriyaki Taco**
Soft shell taco filled with beef teriyaki, rice, shredded lettuce, tomato, and cilantro sour cream.
CHARITY: **American Cancer Society**

26. JD's Tavern @ The Radisson

TACO: **Baja Fish Taco**
CHARITY: **St. Jude's Hospital**

27. J.W. Hills

TACO: **All American Bacon Cheeseburger Taquito**
Served with JW Hills special sauce.
CHARITY: **Kristen's Gift**

28. Lala's Hung

TACO: **Transylvar**
A shell made of a crepe Cherry or Blueberry
CHARITY: **Wounde**

34. Pavilion Restaurant

TACO: **Southern Taco**
Barbecue pork, Carolina slaw, roasted corn salsa, cheddar jack cheese.
CHARITY: **YMCA Greater Manchester**

35. Portland Pie

TACO: **Southwest Pesto**
Each three cheese and monterrey jack, fresh pico de gallo. Southwest seasoned beef or chicken, diced tomato, fresh squeezed lime juice, cilantro.
CHARITY: **Easter Seals**

36. Red Arrow Diner

TACO: **Crabcake & Shrimp Taco**
Maryland Crabcakes, Shrimp, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, Sriracha aioli.
CHARITY: **The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp**

37. Republic

TACO: **Vegan Falafel Taco**
CHARITY: **Manchester Animal Shelter**

38. Strange Brew Tavern

TACO: **Short-rib Taco**
with Salsa Verde.
CHARITY: **TBA**

39. Sudden

TACO: **The Amo**
All white meat chicken sa sliced green apples and le taco shell.
CHARITY: **America**

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rilled and juliennedwith with lettuce an cucumbers.

s Club Of Manch

7. Consuelo's Taqueria

TACO: **Taco Azteca**
A Meat Lovers delight of beef, pork, chorizo and even hot dog in a corn tortilla.

CHARITY: **Greater Manchester Aids Project**

8. Cotton

TACO: **Taco De Carnitas**
Slow cooked pork, black bean corn salsa and chipotle sour cream.

CHARITY: **Kid's Cafe**

9. Currier Art Museum

TACO: **Pulled Pork Taco**
Soft flour taco brushed with chipotle honey, filled with BBQ pulled pork and homemade BBQ sauce, asian pear slaw and queso fresco.

CHARITY: **TBA**

10. Doogie's Bar & Grill

TACO: **Sloppy Joe Taco**

CHARITY: **Greater Manchester Aids Project**

11. Dos Amigos

TACO: **Short Rib Taco**

CHARITY: **City Year New Hampshire**

los

Pork Taco
, lettuce, tomato & sour

18. Gauchos

TACO: **Chicken Taco**
Straight off the skewer chicken taco with all the fixins.

CHARITY: **American Cancer Society Relay For Life**

19. Granite State Candy Shoppe

TACO: **TBA**

CHARITY: **Salvation Army**

20. Greg's Place

TACO: **Pulled Pork Taco**

CHARITY: **Manchester Animal Shelter**

21. Gyro Spot

TACO: **Opa Taco**
Rotisserie chicken or pork with spicy tzatziki, tomato, onion and hand cut french fries.

CHARITY: **Alzheimer's Association**

22. Hanover Street Chophouse

TACO: **El Chopo Taco**
Soft corn tortilla filled with spicy dry-rubbed USDA sirloin, tomatillo-serrano chile salsa and topped with queso fresco.

CHARITY: **Our Promise to Nicholas Foundation**

garian Restaurant

nian Dessert Taco
filled with your choice of

ed Warriors

29. Margaritas

TACO: **Spicy Citrus Carnitas Taco**
Slow roasted shredded pork simmered in a spicy citrus marinade and served with corn salsa and sweet avocado cream sauce, topped with crunchy corn chips.

CHARITY: **American Cancer Society**

30. Midtown Café

TACO: **Short-Rib Taco**
Short-ribs and Coleslaw.

CHARITY: **Serenity Place**

31. Milly's Tavern

TACO: **The Sloppy Pedro**
Pulled Pork with BBQ sauce, shredded cabbage, tomato, red onion in a soft taco shell.

CHARITY: **New Horizons**

32. Mint Bistro

TACO: **Taco Adobado**
Roasted pork shoulder taco with jicama-jalapeno slaw, smoked cheddar, avocado crema mole oaxaca.

CHARITY: **Make A Wish**

33. N'awlins Grille

TACO: **The Swamp Taco**
A cajun chicken taco with a dash of hot swamp sauce, lettuce tomato, and mixed cheeses.

CHARITY: **Make A Wish**

ly Susan's Deli

oskeag
lad with dried cranberries, afy green lettuce on a soft

an Cancer Society

40. Wild Rover

TACO: **TBA**

CHARITY: **TBA**

41. World Sports Grille

TACO: **Shredded Chipotle Garlic Braised Beef Taco**

CHARITY: **CHAD**

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Car's jack point recommendation is for owners, not mechanics



Dear Tom and Ray:

My Ford F-150 owner's manual points out that there are certain "jack points" for the front and rear axles. I had a puncture in the sidewall of a rear tire, so the tire needed to be replaced. The local tire dealer jacked up the rear of the truck by the pumpkin — the rear differential. I pointed out that the owner's manual says NOT to jack the vehicle by the rear differential. The dealer said they "do it all the time, and it does not make any difference." Please clarify for me. I would think that Ford's recommendation is more valid, but what is the reason? Thanks. — Mike

TOM: My guess is that Ford's advice is geared toward you, Mike, the owner of the vehicle. And it assumes you'll be using the jack that came with the truck to change a tire.

RAY: That jack is small and really is for emergency use only. It's designed to lift up only one corner of the vehicle, because that's all it needs to do to allow you to swap out a tire.

TOM: So Ford, and every other manufacturer, creates jack points near each of the wheels. Those are reinforced spots that can handle the full weight of that corner of the car when you raise it up in the air.

RAY: They don't want you to jack up the car using some other point that's not reinforced, because if your improvised jack point fails and the top of the jack punctures the vehicle, the truck could come down on top of you. And that's no fun.

TOM: But if you have a hydraulic floor jack that's capable of lifting the whole truck, then there are other points you can use, if you know what you're doing.

RAY: This dealer did know what he was doing. The "pumpkin" (the rear differential that looks kind of like a pumpkin, that sits in the middle of the rear axle) is designed to carry the full weight of the truck when the truck is on the ground. If it couldn't, the axle tube would break. So we know it can carry the weight of the truck when it's in the air, too.

TOM: And, in fact, that pumpkin and axle are designed to carry much more than just the weight of the truck. Since you have a pickup, chances are you're also going to be doing what? Picking stuff up with it!

RAY: So with a proper jack, the pumpkin is a perfectly acceptable jack point. We do it all the time, too.

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 2006 Toyota Corolla with 60,000 miles. I love the car. It's never given me any problems, except this one: It has an annoying vibration that occurs exclusively when I'm stopped with the brake engaged. If I'm stopped at a light and I put the car in park, the vibration goes away. My mechanic of more than 36 years (he's excellent) is stumped. He's replaced two motor mounts that he thought were causing the problem. When the vibration didn't go away, he replaced a third motor mount. But it's still vibrating. Any thoughts on what's causing this and how to fix it? — Jillian

TOM: The motor mount was a good guess. Usually it's the big one in front that breaks and causes this kind of vibration.

RAY: But he's replaced all three motor mounts now. So I'm going to go out on a limb and say that the motor mounts are not the problem.

TOM: That's why you wrote to us, Jillian — for that kind of keen analysis, right?

RAY: Actually, I'm guessing you have the same problem that we saw recently in the shop.

TOM: It also was a Corolla. Everything under the sun had been tried to stop it from vibrating.

RAY: I had the car out for a test drive, and I was stopped at a light. The thing was shaking and buzzing, and for some reason, I decided to pop the hood release. And the vibration stopped.

TOM: Turned out the hood was vibrating.

RAY: There are two little "bumpers" that stick up from the radiator support under the hood. Their job is to push up against the underside of the hood when it's closed and keep it from vibrating. I guess they had worn down, and they weren't doing their job anymore.

TOM: They're actually adjustable, so all we had to do was back them out a few turns, close the hood and voila! We charged the lady 450 bucks and gave her the car back.

RAY: No, it was a five-minute job. So we charged her only $425. But I'm guessing that's what's wrong with your car, Jillian. Have your mechanic check it out, and let us know.

Visit Cartalk.com.



APRIL VACATION EVENTS

Didn't a chance to sign the kids up for an April vacation camp? Here are some events during the week to check out.

Monday, April 28

• Artist story time at 10 a.m. at the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us). Listen to stories and make a project to bring home. Registration is required.

• Story times at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org), as part of Story time in the Gallery at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. For preschoolers and up.

• Vacation day at Cowabungas (1328 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, mycowabungas.com) from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. All three gyms will be open for bouncing. Cost is $10 per child.

• Kidgits coloring and pirate crafts from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Rockingham Mall (79 Rockingham Park Blvd., Salem, simon.com). Children can choose from a variety of crafts and coloring activities. Free for Kidget members; sign up for a $5 annual fee.

Tuesday, April 29

• Fish Festival at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org), from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be up close viewing of different fish. There will be fish crafts, fish hats and fish games throughout the day. Cost is $3 per person or $6 per family. No registration necessary.

• Teddy bear picnic from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Manchester City Libary (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us). There will be parade through the library, finishing outside on the side lawn for a picnic. There will be a performance by Lindsay and her puppet pals. Bring your teddy bear. Free.

Wednesday, April 30

• Family Studio at Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to create your own mythical creature through collage. All ages are welcome and admission is free.

• Manchester Spring Carnival at the JFK Memorial Coliseum (303 Beech St., Manchester), at 6 p.m. There will be games, rides and food. The carnival will run through Sun., May 4.

Thursday, May 1

• Stories explored at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Use the galleries as inspiration to tell and illustrate your own story. Materials and guidance will be provided. Free; all ages welcome.

• Dimensions of Dance, of Manchester, will perform original choreography inspired by Romare Bearden at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org) from 1 to 1:30 p.m. Admission is free.

• Jungle Jim's Wild About Reading Balloon Magic Show with the West Manchester Library at the Senior Center (76 Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us), at 2 p.m. There will be balloon artistry, magic, comedy and improv. Tickets are free but will be given out 30 minutes before the show as there is limited seating.

• A Day at the Castle from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Merrimack Public Library (470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-5021, merrimacklibrary.org). Ages 6 through 9 are invited to dress up in their royal attire of princes, princesses, court jesters, wizards or more to enjoy a ball and banquet. Registration is required.

• Crazy Concoctions with Mad Science at 9:30 a.m. at Old Bedford Town Hall (70 Bedford Center Road, Bedford, 472-5242, bedfordreconline.com) will have junior scientists finding out what makes glue stick and try out a tape test. They will also mix their our own solutions and bring home a batch of their own slime. Cost is $45 per child.

Friday, May 2

• Scavenger hunt at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org), from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Collect a prize at the end.

• Storyteller session with NH Storyteller Sebastian Lockwood, as he tells the story of Odyssey at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, currier.org). Recommended for ages 7 and older. Tickets are $3 per person. Get tickets at currier.org/tickets.

• Board game afternoon at 2:30 p.m. at the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us).

Check out the Hippo's April vacation camp story at hippopress.com by opening the current issue's flipbook, then clicking on the calendar icon on the bottom left. Find the April 10 issue; the story is on page 30.

Dear Donna,

Do you know anything that might help me put an age to this pin? I want to give it to my niece and would like to give her some history. It belonged to my mother, but she never said anything to us about it.

It's clear plastic and is painted on one side. That's all I can tell you.

Thanks so much.

Carla of Manchester



Dear Carla,

What you have here is a wonderful reverse carved horse pin. The plastic is called Lucite, and it was very popular during the 1950s to 1960s, even though it has been around longer. The painting is called reversed, and that is why it only has paint on the back side.

There was a lot of plastic jewelry during that period, including the most common one, Bakelite. But Lucite ranks right up there as a second runner, and the different shapes and colors still make it very collectible today.

So if I was going to tell your niece the history, Carla, I would say your pin was probably from the 1940s to 1950s era and that it would be something to take good care of because it will only increase in value as time goes on. The value of it today is in the $60 range.

Thanks so much for sharing, and I love hearing that you will be passing it on to a family member.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

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• **ANIMAL RIDE** for the New Hampshire SPCA (Route 33, Stratham, nhspca.com) on Sun., May 4, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The motorcycle ride has a registration fee of $25 per rider.

• **MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET** at the Birch Bend MotoLodge (10 Village Road, Shelborne, 466-5069, birchbend.com) on Sat., May 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors are welcome to sign up by April 26 for $10. Bikes, parts, accessories and clothing will all be at the swap.

• **SPRING FLING** with the Gate City Corvette Club on Sun., May 25, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Anheuser Busch Brewery (221 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 472-3524, gatecitycorvetteclub.com).

• **WINGS AND WHEELS** at the Skyhaven Airport (238 Rochester Hill Road, Rochester, sharefund.org) on Sat., June 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. will feature vendors, motorcycle shows, plane rides, police and fire department demonstrations, entertainment and more. Donations for to Gerry's Emergency Food Pantry.

• **MOTOR MANIA** on Sat., July 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Telegraph offices (594-6535, Hudson). There will be a showcase of classic cars and motorcycles after they parade downtown Nashua. There will also be food, shopping opportunities and games going on.

• **BACA** The NH chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse has meetings on the second Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in Tilton. Visit bacausa.com and email info@bacanh.com or call 888-420-2678.

• **SOLID ROCK RIDERS** NH chapter monthly meetings held in Nashua. Email solidrockridersnh@yahoo.com.

Other

• **TOTAL WOMAN'S SHOWCASE** at the Radisson Hotel (11 Tara Boulevard, Nashua, nashuatelegraph.com) on Thurs., April 24, from 1 to 7 p.m. There will be a lunch from 1 to 3 p.m. and the showcase after from 3 to 7 p.m. Twenty-five women from the greater Nashua area who have influenced business, education, philanthropy and more will be featured. Proceeds go to The Front Door Agency.

• **FRAUD PREVENTION SEMINAR** on Thurs., April 24, at 11 a.m. at Birch Heights (7 Kendall Pond Road, Derry, 425-7755, birchheights.com) with the Derry Police Department about how to spot fraud with address mail, the phone and the internet. They will also discuss identity theft.

• **CELEBRATION AND BENEFIT** for Saint Benedict Academy (83 3rd St., Manchester, sbaauction11@gmail.com, stbenedictacademy.org/auction) on Sat., April 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is $20 per person. There will be live and silent auctions, dinner, dancing, a cash booth and more.

• **MOM PROM** with St. Joseph Hospital will be on Sat., April 26, from 7 to 11 p.m. at Alpine Grove (Hollis, 882-3000, ext. 63208, mompromnashua.org). Women should wear old prom dresses and bridesmaid dresses for a night of dancing, food, cocktails and photo booth fun. Proceeds will benefit the Breast Care Center at the hospital. Tickets are $50.

• **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** at Birch Heights (7 Kendall Pond Road, Derry, 425-7755, birchheights.com) on Sun., April 27, at 2 p.m.

• **MODEL TRAIN SHOW** on Sun., April 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cawley Middle School (Hooksett). There will be train layouts, vendors, clinics, raffles and more. Tickets are $4 for adults and $1 for kids.

• **MOTHERS DAY PAMPER YOURSELF** with jewelscent, silpada, crafts and athena products at the Moose Lodge (170 N. State St., Concord, 856-4213) on Sun., April 27, from

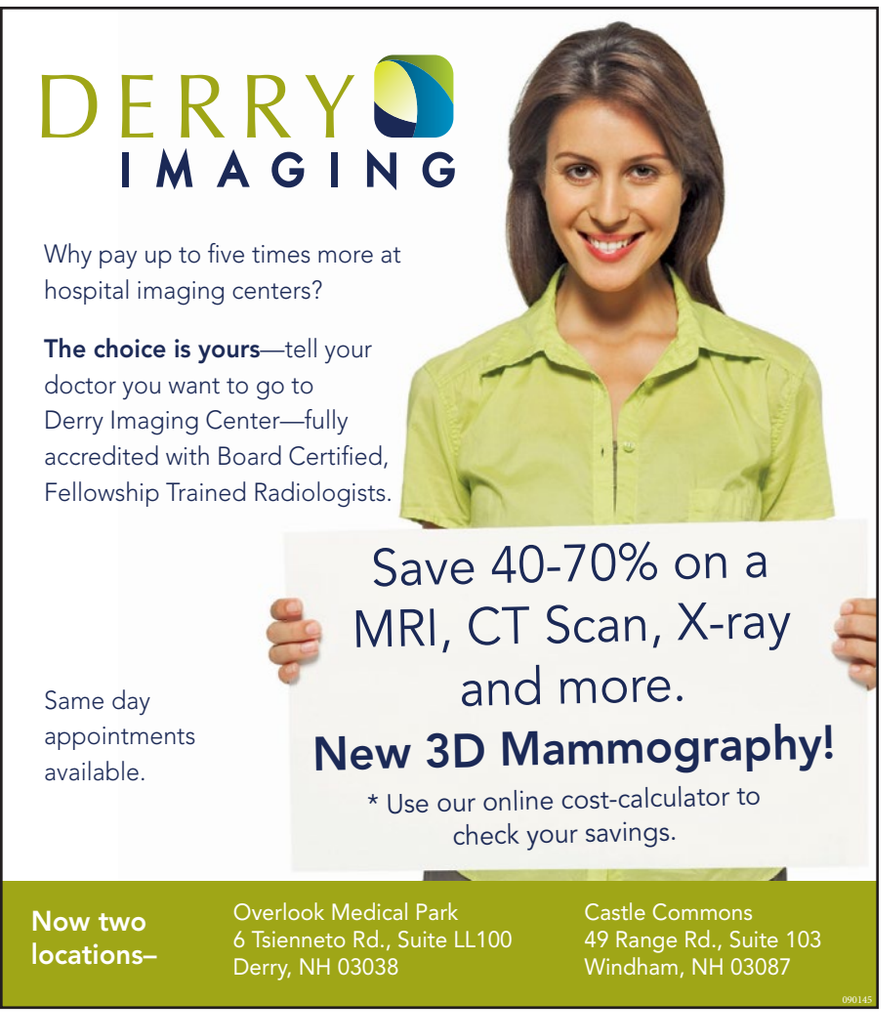


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Caffeine or caf-fiend?

How the stimulant affects you

By Joel Bergeron
listings@hippopress.com



Do you struggle to get through your morning without coffee?

Do afternoons drag on like watching paint dry if you don't have an energy drink?

Do you guzzle back a caffeinated beverage before your workout to get ready for a monster session?

If you said yes to any of these questions, you may be under the spell of a caffeine addiction. But the real question is, is that good or bad?

Caffeine is a substance that isn't needed to survive (although you may think it is if you miss your morning coffee). It's a naturally occurring chemical substance found in organic products such as seeds, leaves, and some types of fruits.

In the consumer world, though, it's common in coffee, tea, chocolate, headache medicines, energy drinks and supplements.

From a chemistry standpoint, caffeine acts as a stimulant and accelerates fat burning. When you have your morning, afternoon, or pre-workout drink, you feel a short-term boost of energy because your metabolism speeds up. There's also a good chance that your beverage has a strong dose of sugar, which provides an additional shot of energy.

Having your caffeine-ridden beverage can seem like the only way to get through the day. Without it, you feel exhausted. But daily fatigue probably has more to do with the withdrawal effects from the drug and your underlying habits that lead to cravings for it.

Since caffeine isn't a substance your body needs, it interferes with the normal metabolic operation of your blood sugar and forces the body to build a tolerance. With time, you need more caffeine to feel a boost.

Negative side effects of caffeine include elevated heart rate, high blood pressure, anxiety, dehydration, increased hunger, insomnia, and a drop in blood sugar. The significance of these things is that they all contribute to heart disease and weight gain (believe it or not).

Try to follow this progression:

1. Caffeine causes dehydration and anxiety.

2. Dehydration causes increased appetite.

3. Increased appetite leads to stronger food cravings and more calories.



4. Excessive calories cause weight gain.

5. More weight gain leads to decreased self-confidence and self-image.

6. Lower self-esteem leads to more stress.

7. Higher stress leads to even more eating as a coping mechanism.

8. And before you know it, you've put on 20 pounds. Yet you're throwing back an energy drink before you hit the treadmill to try to get energized for the workout to lose those extra pounds.

The take-home message is that if your body doesn't need it, you probably shouldn't be consuming it.

Caffeine is a drug and affects you the same way other drugs do: there are withdrawal effects and addictive properties that lead to negative effects.

Try getting off your caffeine addiction and examine your life to see why you crave it so much.

If you're tired in the morning, go to sleep earlier. If you're staying up late, manage your schedule better by getting more organized through prioritizing what needs to be done and what doesn't ahead of time.

If you're tired throughout the day, make sure you're not going more than two to three hours between snacks and meals.

If you're having an energy drink before your workout, again, make sure you've been eating enough — and the right foods —throughout the day.

Get to the root of why you crave caffeine and focus on making improvements in those areas.

Do you have a question about health and fitness that you'd like answered in the Healthy Hippo? Email Joel Bergeron at info@nlpstrength.com. Joel is a former NCAA D1 and professional sports coach and holds a master's degree in sport science. Be sure to check with your doctor before changing your eating habits or embarking on a new exercise program.

The next Speedway Star?

Finalists sing at Mall of New Hampshire



Last year's Speedway Star winner, Whitney Doucet (right), second place winner, Caroline Burns (middle) and third place, Caroline Portu (left). Courtesy photo.

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

Last year, Whitney Doucet sang the national anthem before a crowd at the NASCAR Nationwide Series race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. Now the search is on for the next Speedway Star to sing at one of this year's NASCAR races.

On Saturday, April 26, 10 finalists will sing in front of a panel of judges at the Mall of New Hampshire for a chance to belt out "The Star-Spangled Banner" at the Loudon track.

"The winner and runner-up will receive an opportunity to sing at a NASCAR-sanctioned race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in either July or September," said Gavin Faretra, the communications manager at New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

Aspiring singers submitted preliminary applications, and the events department at NHMS chose its finalists based on their pitch, style and overall sound.

There are a number of returning judges for the competition this year, as well as a new face.

"This year's judging lineup includes the return of Karen Kiley, of The Morning Waking Crew radio show on WOKQ, which she co-hosts with Mark Ericson, who will once again serve as the Speedway Star emcee," Faretra said. "Legendary NASCAR pit reporter Dick Berggren [will be back as well]. The newest judge will be Cliff Blake of Northeast/Midwest Regional Promotion Republic Nashville. Blake works with popular country music groups such as Florida Georgia Line, The Eli Young Band, Cassadee Pope and The Band Perry, which opened up the American Country Music Awards show on April 6."

Each singer is asked to use only their voice at the competition in a capella style — no instruments allowed.

Last year, Faretra said, contestants' ages ranged from 9 to 65, as there is no age limit.

"This is a great opportunity for the speedway to showcase the amazing talent of our New England performers," Faretra said. "We had tremendous success at the Mall of New Hampshire last year, as they have a built-in audience that provides a perfect opportunity for our singers to feel the pressure of a crowd."

NH Motor Speedway Star Competition

Where: Mall of New Hampshire, 1500 S. Willow St., Manchester
When: Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Contact: 783-4744
Visit: nhms.com/speedwaystar

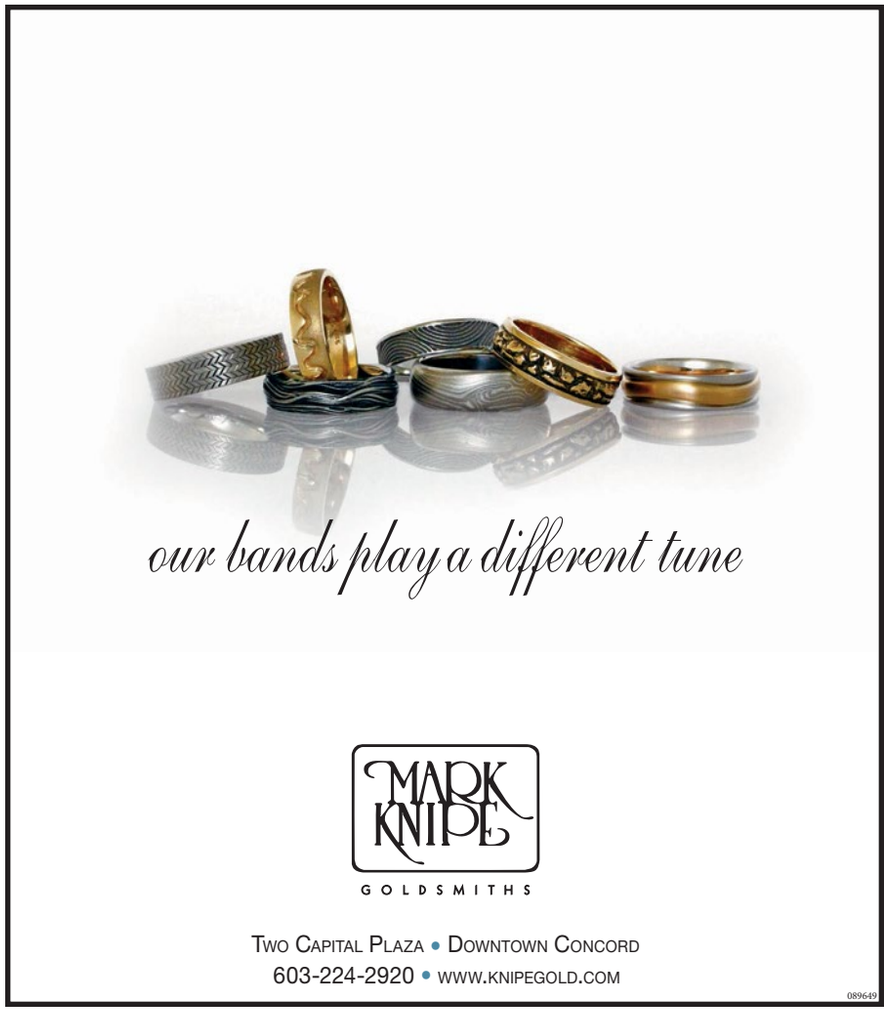
noon to 4 p.m. Admission is free and attendees must be 18 years or older.

• **HOME STEWARDSHIP AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS** on Tues., April 29, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Keller Williams Metro (168 S. River Road, Bedford, ryanhvizda@gmail.com) will talk about rebate programs, solar energy options, green loans, green appraising, marketing and home improvements.

• **CELEBRATE MAY DAY** at The Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.com) on Thurs., May 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 12:30 to 2 p.m. There will be games and crafts and outdoor exploration. Cost is $8 per family.







weekly DISH

News from the local food scene

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

• **Wine Studio closes:** Owner Maureen Adams announced the closing of her Manchester store, The Wine Studio, in a press release last week. The Wine Studio opened in 2006, and for eight years was the home to wine tastings, shopping and community art exhibitions. It was voted Best Wine Shop by Hippo readers for seven years. "It has been my honor and privilege to serve the Manchester and Londonderry communities, and to work collaboratively with my colleagues in the New Hampshire beverage and restaurant industry," Adams said in the press release. The store, located at 53 Hooksett Road in Manchester, will close on Sunday, May 11.

• **Open for business:** Foodies celebrated the opening of two new establishments in the southern New Hampshire food scene last week. Wellington's Marketplace (124 N. Main St., Concord, 715-1191) opened on Tuesday, April 15. The new downtown specialty food store and marketplace is located across from the Statehouse and can be found online on Facebook. Ed Aloise and Claudia Rippee, owners of Republic, opened their newest restaurant, Campo Enoteca (969 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0256, campoenoteca.com), last week as well. The new restaurant, located a couple blocks from Republic, is in the style of a contemporary Roman wine bar and also shares the farm-to-table philosophy of its owners. See campoenoteca.com or online on Facebook.

• **Chamber of Commerce honors restaurateur:** Joe Faro, owner of Tuscan Kitchen and Tuscan Market of Salem, was recognized as a Business Pillar Award winner at the sixth annual Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce Economic Development breakfast. Out of the four award winners, Tuscan Brands (winner of the new business category) was the only restaurant and food-related business recognized.

• **Farmers dinner returns:** The Farmers Dinner, a series of dinners hosted at various restaurants in southern New Hampshire, is returning for another season. The first dinner of 2014 will be held on Sunday, May 25, at the Orchard Street Chop Shop, located at 1 Orchard St., in Dover. The evening features a farm-to-table menu prepared with ingredients grown only a few miles from the restaurant. As with previous events from The Farmers Dinner, the dining room will be set up in a home-style seating plan with guest speakers between

50 ▶

FOOD

Tacos galore

Hippo de Mayo returns with over 40 one-of-a-kind tacos







Grab $2 tacos across the Queen City during the Hippo de Mayo Taco Challenge. Staff photos.

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

Now in its fourth year, the annual Hippo de Mayo Taco Challenge has become a Queen City tradition with its $2, made-just-for-the-occasion tacos available at more than 40 downtown Manchester eateries.

Hippo publisher Jody Reese expects about 15,000 "taco tourists" to participate this year, based on past attendance. These "taco tourists" come from all over — the seacoast, Boston, even Burlington, Vt., Reese said.

"It's a unique food festival," he said. "The idea was to have people hop from place to place and really enjoy the diversity that downtown Manchester and the millyard has to offer."

The taco festivities are on Thursday, May 1, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Reese said there are two strategies to getting the most out of the tour. If your goal is to eat as many tacos as possible, he recommends starting in the millyard with restaurants like Fratello's, Cotton, 900 Degrees, World Sports Grille, Milly's Tavern and the Pavilion Restaurant at the Hilton Garden Inn. After that, he said, visit the most southern locations on Elm Street and work your way in.

"People tend to start on Lowell Street," Reese said, noting that those locations get the busiest the quickest.

But if your goal is to eat a particular taco (perhaps the Indian-style chicken, grilled and julienned with cilantro sauces with lettuce and cucumbers, at Chateau, or the cigarette cookie shell with chocolate hazelnut cake soaked in Kahlua with orange mascarpone cream over at Finesse Pastries), Reese said go to those locations first in case they run out.

Reese said the longest wait time for a taco can be up to 20 minutes in a busy location, but the tacos are worth the wait. Many are made to order, he said, and there's a trade-off for speedy lines. Most restaurants use a soft tortilla shell, and often the taco tastes better when a server takes the time to warm the tortilla.

> "That's the kind of stuff I like to see is the guys who go outside the box."
>
> JODY REESE

"I really like getting to try all the different iterations," Reese said. "That's the kind of stuff I like to see is the guys who go outside the box. The chefs really get into it."

The Hippo de Mayo Taco Challenge isn't just an opportunity to pig out ahead of Cinco de Mayo — it's also a chance for restaurants to win $1,000 for a charity of their choice.

The Hanover Street Chophouse is participating for the first time this year, and owner Steven Clutter hopes to win the prize money for the Our Promise to Nicholas Foundation, a local charity that promotes awareness of Batten Disease.

Clutter said in an email that the Chophouse wanted to participate this year after seeing the Taco Challenge's popularity in previous years.

"It gives us the opportunity to do something different that we don't normally do," Clutter said.

The Hanover Street Chophouse will be serving the "el chopo taco," a soft corn tortilla filled with spicy dry-rubbed USDA sirloin with tomatillo-serrano chile salsa topped with queso fresco.

The Currier Museum of Art is also getting in on the taco action this year. The museum's Winter Garden Cafe chef, Joseph Sylvester, will be preparing a pulled pork taco with chipotle honey, queso fresco and an Asian pear slaw. The Taco Challenge happens to fall on the same evening as Currier After Hours, a special evening with entertainment that occurs on the first Thursday of each month. The Currier will be competing to win $1,000 for its charity, Vietnam Veterans of America.

Restaurants will compete for two titles: the Judges' Choice (voted on by three Hippo staff foodies) and People's Choice awards. Last year, El Rincon won the People's Choice award, while the Gyro Spot took the prize for Judges' Choice.

People's Choice voting will be a little different this year. Instead of texting favorite tacos, participants can vote for their favorite taco on a smartphone by selecting their favorites from a drop-down menu on the Hippo de Mayo website (hippodemayo.com).

Hippo de Mayo Taco Challenge

When: Thursday, May 1, from 5 to 9 p.m.
Where: Participating restaurants in Manchester's millyard and downtown
Cost: $2 per taco. Beverages are also available for purchase.
Visit: hippodemayo.com to see a map of this year's participating restaurants or to check out each restaurant's taco creation

Be your own charcutier

The Sausage Source equips DIY-ers to make their own

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com



Sausage is more than just a culinary staple or a hobby for Rick Brown, owner of The Sausage Source in Hillsboro — it's in his roots.

"I really started this business to help people keep family traditions," Brown said. "When I was growing up I remember my grandfather, my great-grandfather and great grandmother — I remember everyone making it together and enjoying it together."

Brown's great-grandparents were originally from Ruthenia, which became part of Poland. They immigrated to America and were one of the first to visit Ellis Island. The family kielbasa recipe was passed down from his great-grandparents to him.

Brown opened The Sausage Source in 2001. He has a storefront and a deli that caters to the needs of sausage makers or charcutiers in training (and hungry customers, too). A lot of his business comes from online orders, Brown said, and he ships sausage-making supplies all over the world. Many of his customers are hunters who would like to make their own sausage.

Sausage can be made from any kind of meat (pork, chicken and game, like venison). Binders (like soy protein flour) prevent the sausage from having a dry consistency.

"Usually there's a recipe you go by," Brown said. "The better the meat you use, the better the sausage. … The better equipment you have, the easier the process is."

He said it's not difficult to make your own sausage, but there are different recipes and techniques to follow. For some sausages, the casing needs to be a certain size, and for others the meat should be ground multiple times (like hot dogs, which require a few trips through the grinder).

The Sausage Source
3 Henniker Road, Hillsboro
464-6275
sausagesource.com

The only tricky thing to note about making sausage comes when certain sausages need to be smoked. While some, like Italian sausage, are cooked raw, others need to be smoked first (like kielbasa and Andouille sausage). That's when botulism can occur, if the cooking is not done properly. Adding nitrates as a curer prevents botulism; most people use celery salt as a curer, Brown said.

Although Brown doesn't offer classes at The Sausage Source, he supplies equipment, seasonings and how-to books. A starter kit can cost $50 if you're just looking to give it a try, but if you want to equip your own charcuterie it can cost around $300 for a full starter kit.

"If I'm making sausages, I'll [invite people] in and show them how to do it," Brown said. "Most people ask me once and that's it. I just guide them through it."

Food

Lectures/author events/ festivals/fairs

• **WORLD CUISINE TOUR** Thursdays, ends May 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, concordfoodcoop.coop). Each week features cuisine from a different region of the world. Diners receive stamps each Thursday in a passport. Earn five stamps, receive free admission to a future Co-op event; earn 10 stamps and receive two passes to a future Co-op event. Visit concordfoodcoop.coop to see the menu each week.

• **TASTE OF THE TOWNS** Thurs., April 24, at Castleton Banquet & Conference Center, 92 Indian Rock Road, Windham. Fundraiser to benefit the Kyle B. Ross Memorial Scholarship with Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce. General admission opens at 6 p.m., and tickets cost $35. Includes food and wine samples from over 55 restaurants and businesses. See gdlchamber.org.

• **GREEN SMOOTHIE DEMO** Thurs., April 24, at 7 p.m., at Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Health benefits of raw green food smoothies, demo and sampling with instructor Julie Salvato. Free and open to the public, but registration is required. Call 673-2288 or visit amherstlibrary.org.

• **FLIGHT NIGHT** Fri., April 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us). Three flights of drinking chocolate with tasting notes. Cost $14, reservations encouraged.

• **HIPPO DE MAYO TACO CHALLENGE** Thurs., May 1, from 5 to 9 p.m. at over 40 participating restaurants in Manchester. Tacos cost $2 at each location. Visit hippodemayo.com.

• **OPENING DAY HEIFER PARADE WITH FOOD & FIDDLE** Sat., May 3, at 10 a.m. at Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury. Celebrates return of the Brookford Farm cows to the pastures with parade, fiddlers, Maypole and barn dancings, Brookford Farm sausage grill and head wreath making. Free admission







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IN THE KITCHEN WITH MICHAEL BUCKLEY



Michael Buckley is the chef and owner of MT's Local Kitchen & Wine Bar (212 Main St., Nashua, 595-9334, mtslocal.com), Buckley's Great Steaks (438 DW Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com), Surf Restaurant (207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293; 99 Bow St., Portsmouth, 334-9855, surfseafood.com) and Surf Sushi Bar (at the Portsmouth Surf Restaurant location). He was voted No. 1 chef in the 2014 Hippo Best of readers' poll. Buckley said his job is always changing since he moves between all five restaurants, but he enjoys managing his teams and giving direction. "I got a lot of energy and a lot of ideas. I always love new challenges, and I'm always trying new stuff," he said.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

Aside from the obvious? You got to have a great knife, number one. As far as tools are concerned, what is something that I wouldn't want to be without? A high-speed blender. Or a food processor, but they all do the same thing. An immersion blender, high-speed blender or food processor are all for the same reasons — you make so much with those tools.

What would you choose for your last meal?

Probably my favorite thing to eat right up there is jumbo scallops, just caramelized with some kind of simple pan sauce. That's it. I love jumbo sweet scallops. I just make a little sauce with shallots and vinaigrette and some citrus in the pan and mount it with butter. Pour it over the perfectly caramelized scallops.

Favorite restaurant besides your own?

We've had some pretty amazing meals over the years, my wife and I, for different reasons. Sometimes it's just the chemistry of the different people you're with, the mood you have to be in. … I had a lunch in New York City with my best friend several years back at Aureole — that was an amazing experience and I will always remember it.

What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?

Thomas Keller

What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?

It's still local food currently, 'cause that trend has been hot for a couple years. I think it's going to be healthy living next. Everybody's doing locally sourced, because that's still hot. Is it a fad? No, I don't think it's a fad. I think it's a new way of living, so that will just be how you do it going forward. It's just a common sense approach to mingling farming with dining and living. It seems like a novel idea because we weren't doing it 25 years ago.

What is your favorite meal to cook at home?

I'm not afraid to say that I like to hunt and fish. … You will not open my freezer and find too many pieces of meat that weren't raised or hunted or caught. So at home we eat very simply, very cleanly for the most part. I don't make elaborate meals at home because I live in that environment all week long. The last thing I want to do when I get home is cook this elaborate meal with heavy sauces. So it's not unusual for my wife and I to make some rice, sear a venison loin, slice it thin with some seared greens or vegetables — simple.

What is your favorite dish on your restaurant's menu?

Since we're sitting at MT's, I never get sick of our grilled pizza. There's something about the smokiness of the dough when you're eating grilled pizza — I never get sick of that. It's funny, one of my favorite dishes we took off the menu because it didn't sell. I used to love this chicken under a brick that we did — where you get the pan really hot, and we had this brick we'd put on it and cook it. We used to marinate it with lemon and rosemary and all this stuff. ... For some reason that didn't sell. That made crazy. — *Emelia Attridge*

Buttermilk Parmesan Dressing
From the kitchen of Michael Buckley

4 cups sour cream
2 cups mayonnaise
1 quart buttermilk
1 tablespoon minced garlic
4 cups fresh grated parmesan pulsed in proccessor
1 tablespoon black pepper
1 tablespoon salt
6 shakes Tobasco

Mix together thoroughly.

Healthy dinners at your door

All Real Meal delivers good-for-you foods

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

Honey and soy baked chicken with a side of sesame green beans. Gluten-free crab cakes with lemon chive aioli. Cranberry, goat cheese and kale all-natural turkey burger with baked sweet potato fries.

Sound good? You can have those meals delivered right to your door.

Moms Kasia Lojko and Sonia Almodovar do all the cooking for All Real Meal, a service that delivers healthy meals once a week.

Lojko founded All Real Meal about a year ago. Each Monday, the All Real Meal pair shop for fresh ingredients and hit the kitchen to prepare that week's orders. Customers place their orders by Sunday night, and meals are delivered on Tuesdays.

"I think I was just looking for something like that. I have two kids and at the time they were little kids and I wanted to order healthier stuff. There was nothing," Lojko said. "I started researching places like that in California and Colorado and Florida and turns out there's nothing like that here."

The menu changes week to week, but it's always packed with gluten-free and healthy options. Last week's menu featured items like avocado, strawberry and spinach salad over organic greens with all-natural chicken, gorgonzola and poppy seed vinaigrette and shepherd's pie made with grass-fed beef, local mashed potatoes, sweet corn, peas and carrots, as well as the previously mentioned meals.

"Probably more of the challenge of coming up with new recipes is we challenge ourselves to get as much nutrition into each recipe," Almodovar said. "We find a lot of our customers are really conscious of increasing the nutrients of what they're eating."

"It's made from scratch," Lojko said. "It's a lot of vegetables, it's grass-fed meat, well-cut fish, local, in season, organic — and we feel like there's no reason to count calories, because it's good for you."

All Real Meal is also helping educate customers and the community about clean and healthy eating. Almodovar and Lojko recently visited Manchester's Gossler Park Elementary School (where Almodovar's son goes to school) to give a presentation on nutrition and the difference between chemically processed foods and natural foods.



Sonia Almodovar (left) and Kasia Lojko (right), the women behind All Real Meal, prepare nutritious meals on a weekly basis. Emelia Attridge photo.

"We have a few customers now that are losing weight, they feel good," Lojko said. "A few customers have told us too, that they just change the way they eat now. Especially because every week you see so many different dishes and you get new ideas. I think they just get inspired too, to cook better and eat better."

Lojko and Almodovar prepare the meals in a commercial kitchen on East Industrial Drive in Manchester, and meals can be delivered across the greater Manchester area, including Bedford, Merrimack, Amherst and Auburn.

Most of All Real Meal's customer base are professionals and working moms, Almodovar said.

"We have a group of customers that just order everything, every week," she said. "We get a lot of people that are trying to eliminate gluten or chemicals from their diet."

The two women were pleasantly surprised when customers started sending All Real Meal deliveries to friends as gifts.

"It never occurred to us to have our food sent as a gift, but our regular customers have started sending us over when someone has a baby or someone passed away," Almodovar said. "That's actually become a regular thing that we do. People send us instead of flowers."

All Real Meal

Visit allrealmeal.com to check out the weekly menu. Orders should be placed by Sunday at 9 p.m. for delivery that Tuesday.

Cost: A family-size meal serves four to six, and costs $36; individual dishes cost $9.99. The minimum order amount is $39, with a $5 delivery charge.

Visit: allrealmeal.com or call 661-2833



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Weekly Dish

Continued from page 46

courses. Typically, speakers are invited to discuss the local food movement as well as food and agricultural sustainability. Tickets cost $60, and the dinner will run from 5 to 8 p.m. Visit thefarmersdinner.com.

• **Wine & dine:** Napa East Wine Lounge & Shop (12 Murphy Drive, Unit B1, Nashua, 595-9463, napaeast.com) will be hosting a wine dinner featuring Duck Pond Cellars wine on Wednesday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m. The dinner will include a five-course meal with wine pairing and tasting notes from Napa East's sommelier Chris Riendeau and Colleen Clayton of Perfecta Wine Company. The menu will include dishes like orange glazed seared sea scallops, roast pheasant and herb crêpe, pan-seared lollipop lamb chop, Irish cheddar souffle and peppercorn crusted beef tenderloin with chocolate strawberry Bavarian for dessert. The wine dinner costs $65, plus tax and gratuity. Call 595-9463 to place a reservation.

• **Dolce for you, dolce for me:** Looking to learn more about Italy or taste homemade Italian sweets? The Bedford Italian Cultural Society meets on the third Thursday of the month from September to June at 7 p.m. at the Bedford Public Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. Meetings and topics include news, presentations, entertainment and, of course, Italian food (a pillar of Italian culture). Italian heritage is not a requirement. Visit bics-nh.org.

• **Get the kids cooking:** Kids can practice their culinary skills at the Concord Parks and Recreation cooking class, Kids Cook Off. The classes, led by Holistic Health Counselor Brenda Lewis, will run weekly on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m., starting on May 21 and ending June 11. Students ages 8 to 14 will be working with locally produced ingredients and New Hampshire products in the classes, which will meet at the new Heights Community Center (14 Canterbury Road, Concord). The classes cost $55 for residents, $65 for non-residents to register. Visit concordnh.gov/recreation or call 225-8690.

to the event; guided tours available for $10 fee. Visit shakers.org.

• **STONYFIELD EARTH DAY 5K & FAIR** Sat., May 3, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., includes race, kids activities, beer tent and tents featuring local eateries like Mr. Macs, Portland Pie Company, Pete and Gerry's Eggs and others. See stonyfield5k.com.

• **NH VEGFEST** Sat., May 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Manchester Community College, 1066 Front St., Manchester, hosted by Susty's Vegan Cafe. Free event includes vegan or vegetarian book swap, workshops, yoga tai chi, meditation and vegan cooking plus children's activities, food vendors and live music. See facebook.com/nhvegfest.

• **ANNUAL KITCHEN TOUR** Sat., May 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Rye. The Music Hall's annual tour includes a free trolley and downtown map. Craftsmen will also be available during the tour. Tickets cost $25 in advance, $27 on the day of the tour. See themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

• **MOTHERS' MAYFAIR** Sat., May 10, from 9 a.m. to noon at Dr. Crisp School, 50 Arlington St., Nashua. Vendors can purchase a six-foot table for $20, or a half-table for $13. Call 594-4390 to reserve a space.

• **NH RESTAURANT WEEK** Dining deals at participating restaurants Fri., May 16, through Fri., May 23. Visit restaurantweeknh.com.

• **FONDUE FRIDAY** All day on Fri., May 16, at Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us). Warm ganache bowl and plate of pairings for fondue. Cost $20.

• **TOAST TO TUSCANY** Frances Mayes, author of *Under the Tuscan Sun*, will visit the Tuscan Kitchen (67 Main St., Salem) for wine dinner featuring Tuscan Sun wines on Fri., May 16. Seatings are at 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., and include book and bottle signing with Mayes, sampling Tuscan Sun Wines, wine dinner and also includes a bottle of Tuscan Sun wine and a book with ticket, which costs $125 per person. Visit tuscansunwines.com/events.

• **SPRING OPEN GATES** Sat., May 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Brookford Farm, 250 West Road, Canterbury. Includes workshops and tours of the bakery, creamery and Farm & Field, kids activities, farm animals, felting, seeding workshop, grain milling, plant sale, live music and brunch. See brookfordfarm.com.

Chef events/special meals

• **JAZZMOUTH LITE II** Sun., April 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Press Room, 77 Daniel St., Portsmouth. Poetry reading and jazz brunch. Buffet costs $15, not including drinks and gratuity. Poets interested in reading may sign up at the door. See jazzmouth.org.

• **MARIACHIS, MARGARITAS AND MARIPOSA** Sat., May 3, at 7 p.m. at the Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough. Fundraiser with tapas, margaritas, pinatas and music, plus silent and live auction. Tickets cost $25 per person, or $40 per couple. Visit mariposamuseum.org. Early registration is strongly recommended.

• **WOMENADE OF CONCORD** local business and fashion show fundraiser on Thurs., May 8, at O Steaks & Seafood (11 S. Main St., Concord), from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Looks from Bravo, Fabulous Looks Boutique, Gondwana, Joe Kings and Jos A Banks. Proceeds benefit families in need in the greater Concord area. Tickets cost $30. Email meghan.merrill@regencymtg.com or visit womenadeconcord.org.

• **TASTE OF NH CHEF'S DINNER** Fri., May 9, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., at Attitash Grand Summit Hotel, 104 Grand Summit Drive, Bartlett. Dinner with wine and beer tasting from the American Culinary Federation White Mountains Chapter. Tickets cost $35. Visit acfwhitemountains.org.

• **DISTILLER'S DINNER** 1920s themed dinner on Sat., May 17, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at Flag Hill Winery, 297 N. River Road, Lee. Includes stationary and passed appetizers (like a shrimp Bloody Mary bar, spinach dip, mini beef Wellington and smoked salmon crostini to name a few), dinner with choices of sugar maple glazed spiral ham, chicken cordon bleu and sides, plus dessert. Cost $60, payment must be received by Sat., May 3. Visit flaghill.com for specific reservation instructions, or call 659-2949.

• **FORKS & CORKS** Four-course wine dinner series at The Copper Door (15 Leavy

PERISHABLES

Tasty food from fresh ingredients

English muffins



I try to go to the grocery store only once a week with a detailed list of what I need. Ninety-eight percent of what I buy is perishable, and we do a fairly good job of not wasting food. I realized recently that I've been buying a ton of English muffins each week, and we always run out.

While the name "muffin" is misleading, as these great bread products aren't sweet, these flat "muffins" are perfect for breakfast and snacks.

Surprisingly, English muffins originally came from the United States. According to Thomas Breads' website, Samuel Bath Thomas, an immigrant from England, created what we know as the English muffin in the 1880s and even opened a bakery in New York City.

Much like a traditional crumpet, English muffins are often toasted and topped with butter or jam. Buy any brand you like and top it to your tastes. I've included a number of suggestions below of how to top it that will make your mouth water. Using these fresh bread products topped with what you have in your fridge is far healthier than anything like it in the freezer aisle (and far more interesting).

— Allison Willson Dudas

English Muffin Ideas

The Pizza (pictured)
Take a regular or whole wheat English muffin, top with marinara, cheese and whatever toppings you like. Bake in the oven for a few minutes at 350, broil for a minute and enjoy.

The Tortilla
Top your favorite (maybe corn?) muffin with beans and cheese, bake for a few minutes at 350, broil for a minute. Top with salsa, guacamole or sour cream.

The Kid
Toast an English muffin (honey wheat?) and spread with peanut butter. Top with apple slices and maybe even some raisins.

The Bagel
Toast a cinnamon raisin muffin and top with cream cheese.

The Camper
Toast your favorite muffin and top with peanut butter. Drizzle on honey and sprinkle with sunflower seeds.

Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, copperdoorrestaurant.com) held on Wednesdays, May 21, Sept. 24, and Nov. 12. Tickets cost $75 and dinners start at 6 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

• **THE FARMERS DINNER** Sun., May 25, at 5 p.m. at Orchard Street Chop Shop, 1 Orchard St., Dover. Tickets cost $60. Visit thefarmersdinner.com.

Church/charity suppers/ bake sales

• **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** Sundays from 8 to 11 a.m. at Philbrick-Clement Post 65 American Legion (12 N. Stark Highway, Weare, 529-2722, nhpost65.us). A la carte breakfast menu benefits the Legion and community outreach. Cost ranges from $3.50 to $7.

• **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Held the third Wed. of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford at 20 Elm St. See uucm.org.

• **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Fri., April 25, from 5 to 6 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 30 Eastman St., Concord. Free dinner, with corned beef, cabbage, roasted veggies, potato and rice pudding. Donations welcome to support Take-A-Tote Ministry which helps to feed school children in Concord. Call 224-2252 or visit graceeastconcord.org.

• **CHICKEN PARMESAN SUPPER** Sat., April 26, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at St. James United Methodist Church, 646 DW Highway, Merrimack. Tickets available at the door, cost $10 for adults, $8 for seniors, $6 for kids under age 12. 424-7459.

• **SALVATION ARMY 34TH ANNUAL BLUE BONNET LUNCHEON** Tues., May 6, at Chateau Restaurant, 201 Hanover St., Manchester, with guest speaker Major Pat Bossiere. Tickets must be purchased in advance by Thurs., May 1. Tickets cost $18, call 623-2445.

• **SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON** Wed., May 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at East Hampstead Union Church, 225 E. Main St., East Hampstead. Suggested donation $6 per person. To-go meals available. Call 378-0683.

• **EVENING OF COMPASSION** Benefit fundraiser for the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire, Thurs., May 8, at 5:30 p.m. at Manchester Country Club (180 S. River Road, Bedford). Tickets cost $85, visit rescueleague.org.

• **BREAKFAST BUFFET** Sat., May 10, from 8 to 10 a.m. at Bethany Chapel Community Church, 54 Newbury Road, Manchester. Cost $7 for adults, $4 for children ages 6 to 12, and free for children under 6. See bethanychapel.org.

• **HONORING OUR MOTHERS** Hospice Services of Visiting Nurse Association of Manchester & Southern NH will hold its third annual Memories









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FOOD FROM THE PANTRY
Ideas from off the shelf

Green bean salad



The thing I dislike most about family or holiday dinners isn't the awkward small talk or the crazy uncle we all have. No, I hate green bean casserole.

The traditional version, with cream of mushroom soup and fried onions, is typically bland, mushy and boring but manages to make an appearance at every holiday table, even in the spring and summer.

I've pleaded with my mom to stop making it for every family gathering. But she insists that it's tradition … apparently she's following a tradition of flavorless food.

That's why this week when I saw fresh green beans at the grocery store for the first time this season I picked some up to create an alternative to the traditional green bean casserole.

To find a fresh, fun recipe for green beans I relied on a Google search. With dozens of recipes to choose from, I opted for one with a tangy dressing that could be whipped up with basic pantry ingredients.

The recipe, courtesy of Real Simple, is exactly that — simple. With only a handful of ingredients, almost all from the pantry, this recipe would be great to whip up in a pinch for a summer picnic or even a sit-down dinner with the family. It's deceptively easy and delicious.

You could possibly use frozen beans for this recipe; you'd just have to drain them and pat dry after cooking to avoid any extra liquid thinning down the vinaigrette. The vinaigrette is tangy and the almonds add a pinch of sweetness. The crispness of the fresh beans and crunch of the almonds emphasize the freshness of this dish. The tart Dijon mustard, the simple salt and pepper and the cleanliness of the extra-virgin olive oil blend with the sherry vinegar to create an unexpected and enjoyable flavor combination.

The vinaigrette doesn't overpower, but rather enhances, the freshness of the green beans. The subtle sweetness of the almonds is the perfect complement to the overall flavor palette of the dish.

If you're interested in adding a bit more sweetness to the green bean salad, consider toasting the almonds in a bit of sugar until caramelized before tossing with the salad.

When I made this dish for my family dinner on Sunday, it was a huge hit. The traditional green bean casserole went mostly uneaten, while this salad was quickly scooped onto plates and shoveled into mouths. The brightness of the fresh green beans, the hint of color from the Dijon mustard, and the promise of crunch from the almonds enticed our dinner guests, and more than one person asked for the recipe before the night was over.

— Lauren Mifsud

Green Bean Salad with Mustard Vinaigrette
Courtesy of Real Simple

Kosher salt and pepper
1½ pounds green beans, trimmed
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
½ cup sliced almonds, toasted

Boil a large pot of water. Add 1 tablespoon of salt and the green beans and cook until very tender, 6 to 8 minutes. Drain and run under cold water to cool. Rub the beans vigorously between your hands to break them in half lengthwise before transferring to a bowl. In a separate bowl, whisk together the mustard, vinegar, oil, ¼ teaspoon salt, and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Drizzle over the green beans and sprinkle with the almonds before serving.

of Mother Tea and Luncheon on Sat., May 10, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Elliot Wellness Center, 1070 Holt Ave., Manchester. Suggested donation of $10. Call Linda at 663-4008 to resgister, or email lkrisch@elliot-hs.org.

• **RELAY FOR LIFE BREAKFAST** Sun., May 11, for the Knights of Columbus & Kiwanis Relay for Life team. Breakfast from 8 to 10:30 a.m. at Knights Hall, 37 Main St., Salem. Tickets cost $5 per person, or $15 per family. Visit facebook.com/relayforlifesalem.

• **SPAGHETTI SUPPER** Sat., May 17, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at East Hampstead Union Church, 225 E. Main St., East Hampstead. Tickets cost $7 for adults, $3 for children under 12, and no charge to pre-schoolers. To-go meals available. Call 378-0683.

Food classes/workshops

• **GLUTEN-FREE COOKING** Mondays, May 5, May 12, and May 19, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at The Cozy Tea Cart (104 Route 13, Brookline, 249-9111, thecozyteacart.com). Chef David Chan will lead classes featuring gluten-free recipes like curried carrot soup with cilantro-pistachio cream and five-spice roasted chicken with Asian rice. Each class features two recipes, can cost $20 each. Participants may register for one, two or all three classes, but advanced registration is required.

JUST DESSERTS
Recipes for the sweet tooth

Chocolate chip cookies



The chocolate chip cookie is an icon — the icon? — of American food. We've all eaten them, we've all loved them, and we've all made them, even those of us who usually get a little skittish around measuring cups and baking soda.

The beauty of the classic recipe, found on the back of every bag of Toll House chips, is that it produces a darn good cookie. But my years of baking have taught me that this simple, tasty tradition can be made even better with a few tweaks of technique. So, here, to the best of my knowledge, are the keys to making a perfect chocolate chip cookie.

1. Ditch the chips: The formula that keeps chocolate chips in that adorable little drop shape also means that they just don't taste quite as good as real bars of chocolate. It takes a little extra time, but chopping up some baking chocolate or high-quality chocolate bars makes for a noticeably more satisfying chocolate experience. Plus, the tiny shards and bits created by hand-chopping permeate the dough with delightful chocolate flavor.

2. Beat it: You know that first step in many cookie recipes, "beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy"? Take that instruction seriously. That means giving the step about 5 minutes if you're using a stand mixer and close to 10 with handheld beaters. The resulting cookie will have a more tender texture.

3. Patience is a virtue: This is the hardest bit of advice to adhere to. After you combine all the ingredients, after you have that first tempting lick off the beaters and are eagerly awaiting your first bite of warm, fresh cookie, it's time to … wait. Scrape that dough into a bowl, stick it in the fridge, and chill, ideally for about 24 hours. The delay gives the wet ingredients time to fully absorb into the dry, allowing the flavors to mature and ultimately creating a more consistent texture.

I fully admit that you can ignore all these hints and your cookies will still be delicious. But if you take the effort to make these slight tweaks, the cumulative result will be a cookie even better than those you've devoured before. Enjoy.

— *Sarah Shemkus*

Perfect Chocolate Chunk Cookies

Recipe inspired by the back of the Toll House bag, but tweaked and improved over the years

2¼ cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup butter, softened
½ cup granulated sugar
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 large eggs, room temperature
2 cups coarsely chopped semisweet and/or milk chocolate

In a medium mixing bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, and salt. In large bowl, beat together butter and sugars at medium speed until very well combined and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla; mix until combined. Add dry ingredients gradually, mixing on low speed. Fold in chopped chocolate. Transfer dough to medium bowl, cover airtight and refrigerate at least 12 and as many as 36 hours.

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 375 degrees and line cookie sheets with parchment paper.

Use a cookie scoop or measuring spoon to form 1-inch cookies. Place on sheet 2 inches apart. Bake until just golden brown, 8 to 10 minutes. Cool on sheet for 3 minutes, then transfer to wire racks to cool completely.

• **ZEN BROWNIES** Wed., May 7, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us). Learn how to make brownies and take home what you make. Cost $65, advance registration required.

• **SPRING FORAGING** Sat., May 17, from noon to 3 p.m., at Misty Meadows Herbal Center, 183 Wednesday Hill Road, Lee. Field workshop on benefits from wild foods, identification and gathering of spring wild edibles, greens and shoots. Wear appropriate gear. Costs $40 per person. nofanh.org.

• **FROM TREE TO TABLE: GATHERING AND PROCESSING ACORNS FOR FOOD** Sun., May 18, from noon to 4 p.m. at Misty Meadows, 183 Wednesday Hill Road, Lee. Workshop led by Arthur Haines on the use of acorns in the kitchen. Also includes acorn-based foods for tasting. $40, registration required. Visit nhherbalnetwork.wordpress.com or call 340-5161.

• **WINEMAKERS KITCHEN** Cooking with wine series at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, labellewinerynh.com) Wed., May 21, 6 to 8 p.m. Wine and food tasting, cooking demo. Cost $25, registration required.

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FOOD

Uncorking

Hermit Woods opens its new winery

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com



I am a huge fan of New Hampshire wineries, so it is always a pleasure to see them grow and prosper. We have already seen LaBelle Winery move into a beautiful new facility in Amherst, which has allowed it to expand not only its space, but also its selection, wine dinners, classes and events.

Recently, I had the pleasure of joining the founders of Hermit Woods Winery, formerly of Sanbornton, for their official "uncorking," the grand opening of their new winery in downtown Meredith. They worked tirelessly through the winter months to upgrade the old Fermentation Station building that gives them much more room to offer tastings, sell their products and, most importantly, produce wine.

"This is really a special day for us," said Bob Manley, one of Hermit Woods' founders. "Ken, Chuck and I have worked hard the last 10 months, and we are excited to open the doors."

Manley, Ken Hardcastle and Chuck Lawrence started Hermit Woods in 2011. The original tasting room and wine production space were located in Manley's home. He joked that he was finally going to get his master bedroom and basement back with the opening of the new Meredith space.

"We had a love of wine, and we wanted to produce wine with native fruit from our area in the style of regions from around the world," Manley said. "Our wine is made with fruits grown right here."

Hardcastle said they will actually be adding a "fermentable landscape" in front of the winery so they can grow fruit right on site.

For this special occasion, Chef Kevin Halligan of Local Eatery in Laconia served appetizers, made to order on a grill right on the Hermit Woods deck. Hardcastle, the winery's head winemaker, gave guests a tour of the winemaking space located in the lower level of the building. Included were some of his test batches, including some yeasts and a day lily wine. A geologist by trade, Hardcastle is constantly experimenting with different yeasts to see what he wants to use in his wines.

"Wine is a living thing," he said.

In addition to its wine, Hermit Woods is partnering with other local businesses like Oglethorpe Fine Arts and Crafts and the Bread Peddler to offer a variety of items for sale in the winery. The space is set up with room to sip wine and browse. There is also a deck off the front entrance, an ideal place to sit and relax during the summer months.

The winery produces about 30 different wines per year, and its new wines will be released this summer. During the event guests were able to sample four wines: Three Honey Wine, Red Scare, Maple Blue and Karmin Ayre. I have tried all of these wines before but I never get tired of them, as they are all so good. The Maple Blue is the perfect wine for the season because it is actually made with local sap and low bush blueberries.

The winery is currently open on Fridays from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Beginning in May, nearby Newfound Lake Vineyards in Bristol will also be open, so take a trip to the Lakes Region for a wine-filled day. Visit hermitwoods.com for more information.

Drink

Beer/wine/liquor tastings

• **WOODSTOCK** tasting on Thurs., April 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **SMUTTYNOSE** tasting on Thurs., April 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barb's Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 369-4501, barbsbeeremporium.com.

• **STUMP CITY CIDER** tasting on Thurs., April 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Top Shelf Brews, 826 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-2894, topshelfbrewsstore.com.

• **NARRAGANSETT** tasting on Fri., April 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **WINE TASTING** of Animal Rescue League of NH wines on Sat., April 26, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Sully's Superette, 10 N. Mast Road, Goffstown, 497-8176, sullyssuperette.com.

• **WINE TASTING** of Animal Rescue League of NH wines on Sat., April 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Harvest Market, 209 Route 101, Bedford, 472-5017, myharvestmarket.com.

• **OSKAR BLUES** tasting on Thurs., May 1, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barb's Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord,

DRINK

RED, WHITE &GREEN

Bottles for the budget-conscious wine-lover





This week we enjoyed some robust reds.

The **2011 The Path** from California (regularly priced at $11.99) is a red-violet colored blend (the winemaker's site says the 2012 mix is 88 percent cabernet sauvignon, 5 percent grenache, 4 percent merlot and 3 percent ruby cabernet). This wine had deep aromas — one of us said plum, raisin and clove and the other said chocolate cake batter. Those sweeter, rounder stone fruits came through in the flavors too — a very fruity, very approachable cab with a hint of pepperiness, said the one of us not still thinking of chocolate cake batter (in deference to the wine's tangy richness and bite).

The **2010 BearBoat Syrah** from Russian River Valley (currently on sale for $9.99) was also a dark red-violet. This wine had aromas of dried cherry, fresh ripe plum and damp earth. After the wine opened up a bit, it turned into a really enjoyable big red — smoky and intense with concentrated flavors of grape, raisin, cherry, plum and blackberry. This big chewy wine was a nice complement to a meal with big flavors but also an enjoyable glass on its own — perhaps to keep you warm on a chilly spring night spent outside on the porch.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than $20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet.

369-4501, barbsbeeremporium.com.

• **SAM ADAMS** tasting on Thurs., May 1, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

Beer/wine dinners

• **BREWERS DINNER** Mon., May 5, at Sizzle Bistro (1 Highlander Way, Manchester, 232-3344, sizzlebistro.com) with White Birch Brewing. Reservations encouraged.

• **TOAST TO TUSCANY** Frances Mayes, author of *Under the Tuscan Sun*, will visit the Tuscan Kitchen (67 Main St., Salem) for wine dinner featuring Tuscan Sun wines on Fri., May 16. Seatings are at 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., and include book and bottle signing with Mayes, sampling Tuscan Sun Wines, wine dinner and also includes a bottle of Tuscan Sun wine and a book with ticket, which costs $125 per person. Visit tuscansunwines.com/events.

• **DISTILLER'S DINNER** 1920s themed dinner on Sat., May 17, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at Flag Hill Winery, 297 N. River Road, Lee. Includes stationary and passed appetizers (like a shrimp Bloody Mary bar, spinach dip, mini beef Wellington and smoked salmon crostini to name a few), dinner with choices of sugar maple glazed spiral ham, chicken cordon bleu and sides, plus dessert. Cost $60, payment must be received by Sat., May 3. Visit flaghill.com for specific reservation instructions, or call 659-2949.

Beer/wine festivals and special events

• **WINE TASTING GALA** Thurs., May 1, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at EastPoint Executive Center (264 S. River Road, Bedford) benefits Bedford Historical Society. Wine tasting hosted by Perfecta Wine Company, with MC John Clayton. Samplings from Candia Road Beer Company and silent auction. Tickets cost $30 in advance, $100 for four tickets, $40 at the door. Visit bedfordhistoricalnh.org.

• **CRAFT BREW FESTIVAL AND 5K** Sat., May 10, at Hampton Beach, includes 5k run and walk with post-race craft brew festival. Race starts at noon, and festival runs from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Visit craftbrewraces.com.

• **CATHOLIC MEDICAL CENTER WINE & BEER TASTING** Thurs., May 22, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford. Includes wine and beer vendors, food and silent auction. Tickets cost $80, guests must be 21 years and older. Call 663-6056 or visit catholicmedicalcenter.org.

• **PINT NITE** Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at The Holy Grail Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559, holygrailrestaurantandpub.com).

Beer/wine tasting classes

• **INTRO TO RED WINE** Thurs., May 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, labellewinerynh.com) with winemaker Amy LaBelle.

Beer/wine making classes

• **PILSNERS AND POPCORN** Thurs., May 8, at 6 p.m. at IncrediBREW, 112 DW Highway, 891-2477. Lesson on brewing pilsners and samples from Michele's Sweet Shoppe popcorn. Cost $35 per variety case, bottles included. Reservations required. Visit incredibrew.com.

• **TASTE OF EUROPE** Fri., May 16, at 6 p.m. at IncrediBREW, 112 DW Highway, 891-2477. Includes lesson on how to make Chianti, Beaujolais, Riesling, Amarone, Bella Bianco and Pinot Noir, plus sampling of food. Cost $65 for six different bottles of wine. Reservations required. Visit incredibrew.com.

Weekly/monthly tastings

• **HOLY GRAIL PINT NIGHTS** Thurs., 8 to 11 p.m., at the Holy Grail Restaurant and Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559) Sponsoring beer is sold at special price and drinkers get to keep a promotional glass. Check out holygrailrestaurantandpub.com for upcoming beers.

• **LUCIAS BODEGA** Taste craft beer on Fridays 4-8 p.m. and fine wines on Thursdays 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays noon-6 p.m. at Lucia's Bodega (30 Indian Rock Road, Windham, 421-9463). Details at luciasbodega.com.

• **IN THE MIX KITCHEN SERIES** at NH Liquor & Wine Outlets superstore (25 Coliseum Ave., Nashua) with local restaurants pairing meals with wine and spirits. Free, noon to 2 p.m. every Saturday.

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennott@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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• *Transcendence* **D+**

POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, GAMES, COMICS, MOVIES, DVDS, TV AND MORE

Manchester Orchestra, *Cope* (Favorite Gentlemen Records)



The fourth full-length from the Atlanta five-piece finds the band reinventing '90s grunge for people too lazy to run simple Soundcloud searches. In 2009, they became the darlings of 98-pound hipster propeller-heads owing to the unhinged sounds on their second LP, *Mean Everything to Nothing*, which did have its moments but wasn't quite the emotional roller coaster "serious" writers seemed to experience, running the gamut from fairly mellow My Morning Jacket stuff to fairly heavy My Morning Jacket stuff. That's not to say that Manchester Orchestra are fanboy frauds; they were and still are a lot more in-your-face than MMJ, and it wasn't their fault idiots from *AbsolutePunk* and whatnot wrote what they did, perhaps misinterpreting MO's mild flirtation with Kings of Leon arena-indie for the second coming of something-or-other. No, this new music is heavy and usually brainless, like Foo Fighters with Les Claypool coaching the singer, making their closest competitor nowadays Trail of Dead. What's that? Yes, they kick Trail of Dead's ass, and yes, their cred is about to take a nosedive. **B-** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Nux Vomica, *Nux Vomica* (Relapse Records)



I'm far too uninterested to try and find out who coined the term "crust," but I can basically tolerate the genre, a stripped-down blend of doom and punk, rootsy in that it's what Martians would expect if someone told them they were about to hear something called "punk metal." It's been five years since their double-LP *Asleep in the Ashes*, which is kind of weird, being that they seem to have a lot of things to say about things they hate, and back then it seemed like they could write interesting enough Discharge-speed stuff until they passed out. With this one, the Portland, Ore., quintet seems more determined to add Black Sabbath sounds to the mix, such as the power-ringouts on album opener "Sanity is for the Passive," but overall it's a pretty interesting record, if by "interesting" you mean "relegated to a patchwork of familiar things like screamy black-metal vocals and mildly progressive riffage, but sewn together in such a way as not to be boring." **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Okay, here's something my stomach seems to be able to deal with — it's Brooklyn indie weirdos **Teen**, with their second full-length album *The Way and Color*, out this week. The keyboard player is one of the band's three sisters, Kristina Lieberson, who used to play with Here We Go Magic, and you know how much I approve of anything Luke Temple's been involved with. Are you completely lost and this close to flipping to the Sudoku? Relax, all this obscure stuff means is that the sound is very trippy, electronically augmented and chill, to go by the first single, "Not for Long," a dealie that sounds like three Leslie Feists on a slightly gospel tip singing over some mellow Figurine stuff. You'll like it if you wish Massive Attack would do songs that weren't completely awesome.

• Speaking of borderline-awesome-and-weird-at-the-same-time, there's a new **Eels** album out as of Tuesday, titled *The Cautionary Tales of Mark Oliver Everett*, the title character referring to the only person actually in the band, who wants to drill more lonely, vaguely disturbing wisdom into your head. Everett has had songs featured on all three *Shrek* soundtracks, as well as other movies like *American Beauty* and *Yes Man*, which means you've heard his weary, croaky voice before, so you shouldn't feel abandoned in a sea of hipness about all this; he's basically the go-to guy for desolate-sounding dishwasher-safe hipness. The single is "Mistakes of My Youth," an Everly Brothers-tinged twee-pop thing with depressing lyrics, which is totally what's needed on this rapidly failing planet. Do enjoy your personal desperation.

• I thought it was time for a nice bizarre foreign arena-pop curveball, so I just now investigated the new LP from **Francesca Battistelli**, *If We're Honest*, as I figured anyone named "Francesca Battistelli" was probably just as popular as Katy Perry on whatever Italian planet she was from. But no, Francesca Battistelli is actually a Christian-pop American singer who was too lazy to shorten her name for lazy American audiences who believe four-syllable surnames are for artists from Zanzibar, not America. What's that? No, I'd never heard of her before, why would I, I only worship zombie movies these days. So yeah, the advance single here is called "When the Crazy Kicks In," which made me expect something sugary to the point of toxicity, which it is, a semi-ripoff of Natalie Imbruglia's "Torn," if you ask me. What's that? No, I cannot control this endless tide of nonsense.

• Nowadays, mummified metal idiot **Sebastian Bach** looks like a menopausal Drew Barrymore wearing a bathroom rug for hair. He has a new album called *Give 'Em Hell* out this week. Any questions? Good, I thought not. — *Eric W. Saeger*



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POP

A new adventure

NH author pens series for kids

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com



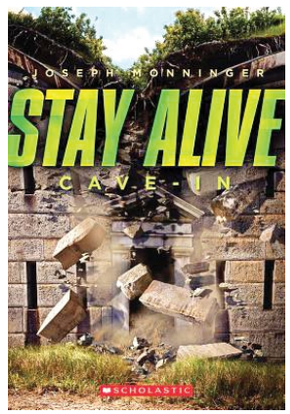
Joseph Monninger. Photo courtesy joemonninger.com.

As a rule of thumb, New Hampshire author Joseph Monninger makes a point to write at least 1,000 words a day.

"Long ago, I read *Sailor on Horseback: The Biography of Jack London* by Irving Stone," Monninger said in a phone interview. "It talked about how Jack London would write between a thousand and two thousand words a day. When I read that, I tried to make it my own goal."

To somebody who writes, this really isn't a big deal, Monninger said. Some days he'll write more, between 2,000 and 3,000 words, while hidden away in his tiny backyard writing cabin. (It's how he gets stuff done — away from distractions, away from the Internet.)

But based simply on how much Monninger has published, the system works. Just last January, for instance, the Hippo reviewed his recent novel, *Margaret from Maine*. That same month, his first middle-grade book, *Crash*, was released, and a couple months later, the second in that series, *Cave-in*.



"The first one came out in January. The publisher wanted to see if there was an appetite for this type of thing," Monninger said.

The publisher is Scholastic, who approached Monninger with the idea for the series at its start. The publishers knew him from some of his successful young adult novels, like *Baby*, which earned the 2008 award for best children's literature from the Peace Corps Writers and was also named a Top 10 book by the American Library Association. *Hippie Chick* also did well and won a blue ribbon through the Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books in 2008.

In his new series, "Each book starts out with a new group of kids. The first three follow a plane crash in Alaska, a small tremor that hits the coast of Maine, a bus breaking down in Minnesota," Monninger said.

Each chapter begins with a survival tip, and the plot follows from there, with multiple points of view and lots of action. Two more of this series are set to come out in 2014: *Breakdown*, which will be released in July, and *Flood*, which comes out September.

This is the youngest audience he's ever written for.

"They're adventure stories," Monninger said. "My editor and I talked about it — when we were kids, we couldn't wait to read stories like these. The other thing is that this whole survival thing is in the vapor right now."

There is, however, a bit of a different air in writing books for middle-grade readers.

"The characterization is probably not as deep. There are no flashbacks — it's all straightforward narrative," he said. "It's kind of fun from a writing standpoint. It's just go, go, go."

But there are other benefits, too. There are no readers like kid readers.

"Writing for young people is sometimes the best writing we can do. We can never read with the same passion and absorption as we can when we're young. When I was young and got into a book, it was something important. I hope to give part of that experience back to the kids who are reading these books," he said.

The writing process, however, is always the same.

"It's all the same muscles," Monninger said.

Regardless of whether those 1,000 words are for kid or adult fiction or nonfiction, he said, you nearly always meet the same challenges when you write. The biggest one? Just sitting down and doing it.

It's what he tells his students at Plymouth State University, where he teaches.

"To be good at anything, you have to put your 10,000 hours into it. And I've put in my hours," Monninger said.

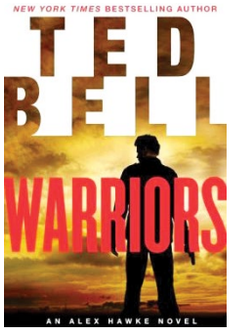
Meet Joseph Monninger

Where: Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord
When: Tuesday, May 6, at 5 p.m.
Contact: 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com

TOP 10 Espionage

For the week of April 14
(barnesandnoble.com)

1. ***Warriors (Alex Hawke Series #8)***
by Ted Bell
Hardcover,
April 1, 2104



2. ***Command Authority***
by Tom Clancy, Mark Greaney
Hardcover,
December 2013

3. ***Blood Pact (Kirk McGarvey Series #17)***
by David Hagberg
Hardcover, March 2014

4. ***Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Ascendancy (Bourne Series #12)***
by Eric Van Lustbader
Hardcover, June 10, 2014

5. ***The Heist (Signed Book) (Gabriel Allon Series #14)***
by Daniel Silva
Hardcover, July 15, 2014

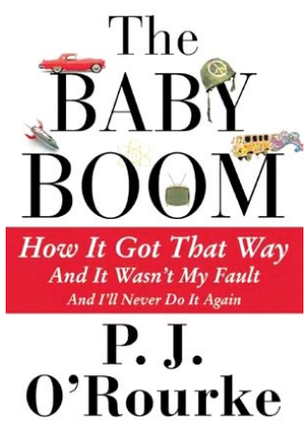
6. ***The Last Man (Mitch Rapp Series #13)***
by Vince Flynn
Mass Market Paperback, August 2013

7. ***Threat Vector***
by Tom Clancy, Mark Greaney
Mass Market Paperback, December 2013

8. ***The Counterfeit Agent***
by Alex Berenson
Hardcover, February 2014

9. ***The Cairo Affair***
by Olen Steinhauer
Hardcover, March 2014

10. ***Gone (Michael Bennett Series #6)***
by James Patterson, Michael Ledwidge
Hardcover, September 2013



The Baby Boom: How It Got That Way And It Wasn't My Fault And I'll Never Do It Again, **by P.J. O'Rourke (Atlantic Monthly Press, 263 pages)**

In a jacket blurb, satirist Christopher Buckley says *The Baby Boom* is P.J. O'Rourke's best book ever. Christopher Buckley was born in 1952. He's a Boomer. They're friends. All you need to know.

In fact, O'Rourke, New Hampshire's most celebrated commentator, bats sloppily in his latest, which is a lightweight ode to Baby Boomers and, as such, will appeal only to them. Given that the population born between 1946 and 1964 numbers 75 million, this should register more than enough sales to make for another bestseller, except for another problem. It's a book not about the Baby Boom *in toto*, but a particular segment of the Baby Boom: those who, like O'Rourke, are members of the "senior class," those born in the late 1940s. (Juniors were hatched early '50s; sophomores, late '50s; freshmen, early '60s.) The categories illustrate the problem everyone has when pontificating on Boomers: One size never fits all.

Moreover, despite a title that promises observations about a generation, *The Baby Boom* is, most frequently, an observation about one man. This is not usually a problem; first-person pronouns are a fixture of O'Rourke's writing, but his comedic adventures in Bangladesh were far more interesting than the coming-of-age-in-Ohio tales revealed here. The problem is that Baby Boomers are just not that interesting. We're an essay, not a hardcover book.

But a book advance demands a book, so O'Rourke dutifully labored to fill the space, forcing fans of his trademark acidic wry humor to sift a lot of sand to find the occasional gem buried therein. The book begins with droll generalities about the generation: "We made the universe personal, and we made the universe new. New in the sense of juvenescent. We have an abiding admiration for our own larval state."

Then it moves on to droll anecdotes about getting older in the '50s and '60s ("getting older" because, of course, Baby Boomers refuse to "grow up.") Not to give anything away, but it doesn't turn out so great for some sand wasps and frogs.

Then, it moves on to the Vietnam War — now there's a landscape ripe for comedy, at least for those who, like O'Rourke and most of his friends, weren't drafted. "The Baby Boom was having a party, and the Vietnam War interrupted it. Try it yourself. Go to a beer blast at midnight and suggest all the guys leave, get buzz cuts and do push-ups."

For O'Rourke and his friends, the war was "a permission slip for nice middle-class kids to mock authority figures, vandalize property, and get chased by the police. … Plus it was a great way to meet girls."

There's nothing offensive here; the prose is often just tired. (Case in point: A humorist as well regarded as O'Rourke has no business penning any line that contains the words "Bill Clinton" and "breasts" but should leave all such retreads for amateurs.) Mostly, though, the book contains just too much frat-boy comedy about events that might not have even happened.

In a preface, O'Rourke confesses that "Twice-told tales have been trotted out onto the court for three-peats" and "Merry hell has been played with time, places, personages, and recalled dialogue." So when he later banters about a graduate-school interview, or how a schoolmate was killed by an oil truck, and an endless parade of revelations about drug use and erections, we've no idea if any of it's true, or if it's just a manifestation of the long-term effects of pot on the brain. Newts skewered on lit sparklers? Maybe it happened (hope not); maybe the hallucinations just checked in and decided to stay.

For those for whom "A Frat Boy Looks Back on Life" sounds like a rollicking good read, this is your book. For those who look to O'Rourke for sophisticated and original commentary, as in "All The Trouble in the World" and "Give War a Chance," this book will disappoint with its monotony of tone and banality of subject. For an O'Rourke fix, check his backlist or the archive of *The Weekly Standard*. (A piece on a family dog "radicalized by porcupines" is particularly memorable, and come to think of it, *Radicalized by Porcupines* makes a much better title than *The Baby Boom*.)

That said, O'Rourke remains a Granite State treasure, and thus must be forgiven both this book and a quip from his website: "I live with my wife and three children in rural New Hampshire because no one else wants to. The other day, I was mentioning to my wife that Perth, Australia, is the place where people live that is farthest away from any other place that people live. 'And the reason we don't live there,' my wife said, 'is that the weather's too nice.'"

C — *Jennifer Graham*

CHILDREN'S ROOM

A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library

Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?

Written by Rita Gray; illustrated by Kenard Pak 2014
(Picture book, 4-8 years)



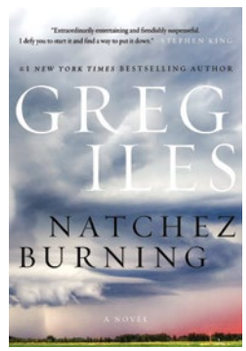
While all the other birds fill the air with their songs, the mother robin sits quietly on her nest. This beautifully illustrated non-fiction picture book explains the reason for her silence. A lovely spring read-aloud.

Illustration by Kenard Pak

OUT NEXT WEEK

Natchez Burning

by Greg Iles



Hits shelves: April 29

Author best known for: Novels including *Spandau Phoenix, The Quiet Game, Turning Angel,* and *The Devil's Punchbowl*

One-sentence review: "I defy you to start it and find a way to put it down." — Stephen King

Book Report



Chris Bohjalian. Courtesy photo.

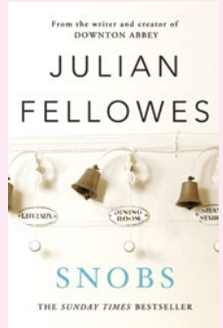
• **Everything Chris Bohjalian:** It's a good month for fans of *The Sandcastle Girls*; Chris Bohjalian makes a visit to Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Wednesday, May 7, at 7 p.m. to talk about his novel surrounding the Armenian genocide, *The Sandcastle Girls*, which was the store's latest in-store book group pick (though you don't have to have read the book to attend and enjoy, according to a press release). During the visit, he might also talk about some of his other books, including his more recent *The Light in the Ruins* and his next to be released, *Close Your Eyes, Hold Hands*, which comes out July 8. If you miss this event, you can instead meet him at the Pollard Memorial Library, 401 Merrimack St., Lowell, the next day on Thursday, May 8, at 6 p.m., for conversation, wine, hors d'oeuvres and a book signing (but for a suggested donation of $45 per person, with proceeds benefitting the Pollard Memorial Library Foundation). Visit pollardml.org.

• **A work in progress:** MainStreet BookEnds in Warner (16 E. Main St., Warner) hosts David M. Carroll in the gallery on Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m. He'll present his illustrations and drafts for his forthcoming children's picture book, *Turtle's Journey*. Carroll is a naturalist and writer whose *Swampwalker's Journal* won the John Burroughs Medal for nature writing, and whose latest book, *Following the Water*, was the finalist for the National Book Award. At the event, he'll show original watercolors, present brief readings and discuss the history of the book, which was originally drafted in 1989, as described in the release. Call 456-2700 or visit mainstreetbookends.com.

• **Speaking of naturalists, a look at Thoreau:** RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, welcomes back author Michael Sims to read from and discuss *The Adventures of Henry Thoreau: A Young Man's Unlikely Path to Walden Pond* on Monday, April 28, at 7 p.m. Sims is an internationally acclaimed nonfiction author, journalist and editor, and he's written about a variety of topics, including watershed ecology, the natural history of vampires, satirical poetry in children's books — but his favorite "turf," according to a press release, is where nature and culture meet. His book is a profile of Henry David Thoreau, told through reference to 19th-century letters and diaries from Thoreau's family, friends and students. Call 431-2100 or visit riverrunbookstore.com.

— Kelly Sennott

FROM THE BOOKSHELF



***Snobs*, by Julian Fellowes (2004, St. Martin's Griffin)**

Here's just the thing to ease your *Downton Abbey* letdown in the wake of Season 4.

Written by *Downton* creator Julian Fellowes six years before the first season of the popular TV drama aired, *Snobs* is clearly a warm-up act, but set in the 1990s and with a tighter focus on fewer characters.

Snobs centers on Edith Lavery, a social climber who marries into an upper-class family outside London only to find the grass is less green than she'd thought. It's narrated by an acquaintance of hers who is an actor (like Fellowes) who spends some time on the country estate filming a period drama (go figure). If you've watched *Downton* at all, you'll hear the narration in the reassuringly self-righteous tones of, oh, say, Lord Grantham or maybe Lady Mary, depending on which sorts of machinations are going on at the time.

The narrative perspective shifts a little weirdly — in one passage the nameless narrator is omnisciently telling us Edith's every thought and feeling as she has intimate relations with her husband; in the next, he's the actor taking her out to lunch to find out what she's been up to lately. In the epilogue, he says, "at least to date, the girl does not seem particularly to favour" a particular character, but a paragraph later he's again overseer of the universe, telling us how it's all going to turn out.

Not to worry, though; this eccentricity only boosts the sense of aristocratic superiority, of being both in the world and above it, which you can simultaneously enjoy, envy and feel superior to as you read. *Snobs* closes the case that Fellowes is just a big kid playing with a giant toybox full of aristocratic Barbies (after all, that's what you do when you're playing with dolls — you become the characters and you also play god), and you can play too. It's a nice confection, smoothly crafted and well-paced, perfect for a post-*Downton*-season diversion.

— Lisa Parsons

Books

Author events

• **JULIA LYNAM** has an author night at the Pollard Memorial Library, 401 Merrimack St., Lowell, on Thurs., April 24, at 7 p.m., to talk about *Treasures on Your Doorstep: The Other National Parks of the U.S.A.* Visit pollardml.org, facebook.com/pollardml.

• **EILEEN DOYON AND TEMPA PAGEL** visit RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com, on Fri., April 25, at 7 p.m., to talk about the *Unforgettable Faces and Stories: Keepsakes* and *They Danced by the Light of the Moon*, respectively.

• **JEANNIE BRETT** introduces new book, *Wild About Bears*, at Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org, on Sat., April 26, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Visit jeanniebrett.com.

• **LITA JUDGE** will be at Toadstool Bookshop, 12 Depot Sq., Peterborough, on Sat., April 26, at 11 a.m., to read latest story, sign copies of her book and talk about her art, including the latest *Flight School*. Call 924-3543.

• **CAROLYN GREGSAK** reads from and signs *Flight of Migration* on Sat., April 26, at 2 p.m., at Toadstool Bookshop, 12 Depot Sq., Peterborough, 924-3543.

• **LOIS LOWRY** speaks at a free event on Sat., April 26, at 2 p.m., at Central High School, 207 Lowell St., Manchester, sponsored by NH Humanities Council's "Connections" adult literacy program. Space limited, visit nhhc.org to reserve seats. Questions, book signing. Call 224-4071.

• **LINDA GREENLAW** talks about *Livesaving Lessons: Notes From an Accidental Mother* at Toadstool Bookshop, Lorden Plaza, Milford, 673-1734, on Sun., April 27; at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, on Mon., April 28, at 7 p.m.; and at Bayswater Book Co., 12 Main St., Center Harbor, 253-8858, on Tues., April 29, at 12:30 p.m.

• **MICHAEL SIMS** talks about his new book, *The Adventures of Henry Thoreau: A Young Man's Unlikely Path to Walden Pond* on Mon., April 28, at 7 p.m., at RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com.

• **REBECCA RULE** hosts a presentation at the Meredith Public Library, 91 Main St., Meredith, on Tues., April 29, at 6:30 p.m., about her book, *Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire, the Present, the Past and the Future*. Free, light refreshments. Call 279-4303.

• **MONA SIMPSON** author of *Anywhere But Here* presents as part of the Writers in the Loft Series on Wed., April 30, at 7 p.m., at the Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth. Tickets $40, includes hardcover copy of the book. Call 436-2400, visit themusichall.org.

• **JEFF BAUMAN** Boston Marathon bombing survivor reads from his new book, *Stronger*, at the Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord, on Thurs., May 1, at 7 p.m. Presented with Gibson's Bookstore. Call 225-8670, visit concordpubliclibrary.net or the library Facebook page.

• **MATT TAIBBI** talks about *The Divide* through RiverRun Bookstore, at South Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, on Fri., May 2, at 7 p.m. Tickets $7, can be used toward purchase of *The Divide*. Visit mattaibbiatriverrun.eventbrite.com.

• **DAVID CARROLL** presents illustrations and drafts for forthcoming children's picture book, *Turtle's Journey*, on Sun., May 4, at 2 p.m., at MainStreet BookEnds, 16 E. Main St., Warner.

• **SUNDAY GRANITE STATE AUTHORS SERIES** readings, discussions, book signings by Hobblebush authors at LaBelle Winery, 345 Route 101, Amherst, RSVP at tinyurl.com/GSAatLaBelle. Reception at 3 p.m., reading at 3:30 p.m., author meet-and-greet at 4:15 p.m., free. Sidney Hall Jr. presents *Small Town Tales* on Sun., May 4; Julia Older presents *Tales of the Francois Vase* on Sun., June 8; and Tom Fitzgerald presents *Poor Richard's Lament* on Sun., July 20.

• **JOSEPH MONNINGER** presents his new book series for middle grade readers on Tues., May 6, at 5 p.m., at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com. Series of survival stories for young readers, includes *Crash* and *Cave-In*.

• **CHRIS BOHJALIAN** visits Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Wed., May 7, at 7 p.m., to lead book club discussion of his national bestseller, *The Sandcastle Girls*, free event, includes a book signing, registration not required. Call 224-0562, visit gibsonsbookstore.com. He also visits the Pollard Memorial Library, 401 Merrimack St., Lowell, 978-674-1542, sthibodeau@mvlc.org, on Thurs., May 8, at 6 p.m. Wine, hors d'oeuvres, conversation followed by book signing of his books, including his latest, *The Light in the Ruins*. Suggested donation $45 per person. Visit pollardml.org.

• **DAN SZCZESNY** talks about *The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie* at Griffin Free Library, 22 Hooksett Road, Auburn, Monday, May 12, 6:30 p.m.

Lectures and discussions

• **VIKING DAY** at the Tuck Museum, 40 Park Ave., Hampton, on Sat., April 26, noon-3 p.m., presentation with exhibitions, costumes, ceremonies, demonstrations (including those with axes, swords, spears and shield making). Free, family-friendly event. Call 926-2543, visit hamptonhistoricalsociety.org.

• **PORTSMOUTH BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL LECTURE SERIES** at Discover Portsmouth, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth, on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, 2-4 p.m. Free. Visit 436-8433, email jaboggis@portsmouthhistory.org. "No Longer Hidden: Blacks of Early Kittery and Berwick, Maine" by Patricia Wall on Sun., April 27. 10th Annual Spring Symposium on Sat., May 3, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., also at Discover Portsmouth, $25 registration includes lunch, call/email for details.

• **HIGH TEA WITH MOLLY STARK** on Sun., April 27, at 1:30 p.m., at Goffstown Public Library, 2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102. Historical recreation of colonial period high tea, Rod "John" Stark in attendance to share family history, refreshments served, email sandyw@goffstownlibrary.com.

• **DUKE ELLINGTON AND THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE** presentation by Nanette Perrotte about the period of Duke Ellington's intense creativity during the 1920s at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, on Sun., April 27, at 2 p.m. Followed by some singing of his compositions. Free, registration required; visit tinyurl.com/npllectures.

• **LONGFELLOW: THE POET AND HIS SONGS** living history performance by independent literary historian and playwright Rob Velella, portrays Henry Wadsworth Longfellow on Tues., April 29, at 7 p.m., at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288. Visit americanliteraryblog.blogspot.com. Free, RSVP required, call or email library@amherst.library.org.

• **WORLD WAR I PRESENTATION** by Richard Rubin, author of *The Last of the Doughboys: The*

Forgotten Generation and Their Forgotten World War on Sat., May 3, at 2 p.m., co-sponsored by Friends of the Northwood Libraries and Morrison Lodge, at Masonic Hall (158 1st NH Turnpike, Northwood). Requested $6 donation, copies of book available.

• **FROM CASTLE TO MUSEUM: THE DECORDOVA SCULPTURE PARK** on Mon., May 5, at 7 p.m., at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, virtual visit to deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum through historical photos and slides of current exhibits, presented by Jennifer Starr. Free event, registration not required.

• **BROTHERS AT WAR** presentation at the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry, on Mon., May 12, at 6:30 p.m. T.J. Cullinane will conclude Derry in the Civil War trilogy by recounting deeds of common soldier, focusing on seven sets of brothers Derry sent to the war. Registration required; call 432-6140.

Book discussions

• **AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY** Wednesday afternoon book club meets on the second Friday of the month at the library, 1-3 p.m. Visitors and/or new members always welcome (call in advance). Amherst newcomers group meets meets Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Visit the library for titles.

• **THE BOOK CELLAR** in Nashua hosts a book club that meets on the first Wed. of each month, new members always welcome. The Book Cellar is at 34 Northwest Blvd., Nashua, in the Westside Plaza, 881-5570, bookcellaronline.com.

• **BOOKS IN THE MILL** spring book group series with Manchester City Library and Manchester Historic Association. Meets Thursdays at Manchester City Library mezzanine (405 Pine St., Manchester), 6:30-8 p.m., manchester.unh.edu/events.

• **CANDIA SMYTH PUBLIC LIBRARY** book discussion group meets for friendly one-hour discussion once a month. The library is at 55 High St., Candia, 483-8245, www.smythpl.org.

• **CLASSICS CROWD** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop reads 19th-century British classics and meets every other month to discuss books voted on by consensus. New members always welcome. Meets on the third Thursday of the month. Visit toadstool.indiebound.com/event for book titles.

• **GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE** hosts monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to come for all or any of the dates. All discussion titles are 25 percent off until the date of their discussion. All meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the month unless otherwise noted.

• **GOFFSTOWN LIBRARY** evening book group meets the first Tuesday of the month, open to any interested teen or adult.

• **GOFFSTOWN LIBRARY** "literary ladies"/afternoon book discussion group meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. Call 497-2102 if interested in joining book discussion group.

• **HOOKSETT LIBRARY** book group generally meets on the third Thursday of the month. New members always welcome.

• **HOLLIS SOCIAL LIBRARY** hosts a book discussion group on the third Tuesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the library meeting room. No signup required. Check with the library for the selection of the month. Mother/daughter book club on the third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. For girls grades 4-8 and their mothers.

• **HOOKSETT LIBRARY** tween book group for sixth- and seventh-graders meets certain Wednesdays; sign up online.

• **KELLEY LIBRARY** Book Group meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. The nonfiction book group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

• **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY** evening book discussion group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Hunt Room.

• **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY** Brown Bag Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Hunt Room. Bring lunch. Call 624-6550, ext. 319.

• **MERRIMACK PUBLIC LIBRARY** hosts a book discussion group at 7 p.m. on the third Wed. of each month from Sept. through June. These programs are free and open to the public, no registration required.

• **NASHUA NOVEL READERS** group meets monthly on a Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Music/Art/Media wing of Nashua Public Library. Welcomes new members. Call 589-4610 or email carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org.

• **BOOK DISCUSSION FOR TEENS** at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, on the last Tuesday of the month this fall.

• **PEMBROKE TOWN LIBRARY** book discussion group meets on the second Wed. of each month at 6:30 p.m.

• **POLLARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY** nonfiction book club meets on the first Thurs. of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Pollard Library, 401 Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., 978-674-4121, pollardml.org.

• **RIVERRUN BOOKSTORE CLASSICS BOOK GROUP** meets at RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.

• **RODGERS LIBRARY** in Hudson afternoon book discussion group meets on the third Tues. of the month. Books are available at the library; for more info or to add your name to the group mailing list, call 886-6030, email askus@rodgerslibrary.org or visit rodgerslibrary.org.

• **SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY** discussion group meets at 7 p.m. second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Toadstool Bookshop in Milford. Welcomes older teens and adults to share the books they've recently read.

• **SOCRATES CAFE** meets on the first Wed. of each month 7-8:30 p.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Milford. New members welcome.

• **TEEN GALLEY GROUP** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop meets monthly. The group will select free books, many in advance of publication, and review them the following month. Meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of the month. Call the store and sign up to reserve a spot.

• **WARNER AREA BOOK CLUB** meets on certain Sundays at MainStreet BookEnds in Warner. All are welcome; call Jen at 456-3021 or email Jenkane@tds.net to sign up. 16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com.

Poetry

• **JAZZMOUTH LITE II** poetry and jazz breakfast buffet at The Press Room, 77 Daniel St., Portsmouth, on Sun., April 27, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Combination breakfast with open mike poetry readings and improvised music of Beat Night Band. Buffet costs $15 plus drinks and tip, collection to be taken to support musicians, poets sign up at door.

• **PAST POET LAUREATE JOHN PERRAULT** provides an evening of poetry and song at the Exeter Public Library, 4 Chestnut St., Exeter, 772-3101, on Tues., April 29, at 6:30 p.m., exeterplref@gmail.com. Free event.

• **POET LAUREATE ALICE B. FOGEL** speaks at NHTI on Tues., April 29, noon-3 p.m., at Concord Orthopaedics Auditorium, Grappone Hall, NHTI, 31 College Drive, Concord, during 13th Annual Celebration of Poetry at the school. Free admission, presentation followed by mike readings. Call 271-6484, ext. 4242, email alindsay@ccsnh.edu.

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Meet the Authors!

April 24th 7PM – Poet Dan Chiasson



A poetry event for National Poetry Month! One of America's most interesting poets and essayists, Dan Chiasson's work has often appeared in the "New Yorker" and the "NY Review of Books."

April 26th 10AM – PSNH Board Meeting

It's the quarterly board meeting of the Poetry Society of NH, Followed by an open mic! The Board Meeting has a reading by NH Poet Laureate Alice Fogel, a lunch break, and then open mic.

April 28th 7PM – Linda Greenlaw



'Lifesaving Lessons: Notes from an Accidental Mother.' Join us as Maine author Linda Greenlaw faces her greatest battle with nature–a newly adopted teenage daughter.

April 29th 10AM – Children's Storytime



We have stories and crafts on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 10am. All are welcome, and registration is not required so please join us!

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THE TOADSTOOL BOOKSHOPS

Linda Greenlaw
Sun, April 27, 11:30am

The Maine swordfish boat captain and author (*The Hungry Ocean*, *Seaworthy*, and *The Lobster Chronicles* among others) visits to discuss and sign her new book describing her latest and greatest challenge – Motherhood – in, *"Lifesaving Lessons."*

(Penguin, $16)

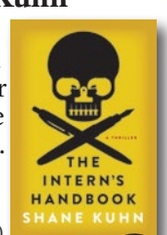




The Intern's Handbook
by Shane Kuhn

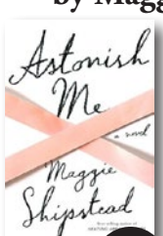
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Heaven is for Real (PG)

A little boy facing life-threatening illness claims to have visited heaven, causing his preacher father to have a crisis of faith in *Heaven is for Real*, which is based on the hugely popular book of the same name.



Heaven is for Real

Like some midwestern Job, Todd Burpo (Greg Kinnear) is having a hard time of it. He works, like, half a dozen jobs (the principal one being as pastor at a church in small-town Nebraska) but seems to have no regular income, no savings and no healthcare to deal with the three major health problems that plague his family in the movie's first half. But nevertheless people in town — as led by church council members Nancy (Margo Martindale) and Jay (Thomas Haden Church) — really like Todd and his family. Don't like him enough to pay their bills for his repair work, but enough to stop and say a few prayers for his 4-year-old son Colton (Connor Corum) when he suffers from a ruptured appendix. Colton doesn't die while doctors are performing surgery but he does have a near death experience. He sees heaven, meets Jesus (who, he later tells his father, has a horse and bluey-green eyes) and meets long-dead relatives. Angels even sing for him, though not, as he requests, "We Will Rock You."

His health improves, but Colton still carries the memories of what he saw and tells his father all about it. Todd doesn't know what to do with the information, isn't sure how to process it. What does it mean, he wonders, if his son really has met Jesus? What does it mean — for Todd's life, for his ministry, for his own religious beliefs, if heaven is for real?

Forget religious beliefs, I have a serious lack of faith in this movie's understanding of its own characters, story or what the heck it's trying to say. Even the tone is confusing, as the movie weaves from super-PG goofiness (choir ladies sing off-key and the family dog starts to howl) to dark-night-of-the-soul crisis-of-faith stuff. I will believe in a Jesus riding a rainbow horse (which, sadly, we don't get to see), no questions asked, before I'll believe that a reporter, based on some "off the record" comments by hospital workers (what?), would show up at a church to ask a minister for quotes, via a question shouted press-conference-style, about his son's illness during a middle of a service. I realize that that detail is a small thing, something that would probably only bother reporters, the way that, for all I know, some garage door repairman is out there foaming at the mouth over the scene of Kinnear's character fixing a warehouse door. But the reporter who stands up, notebook in hand, to ask some stupid question about what Todd thinks about Colton's visit to heaven is an excellent example of the movie's willful lack of interest in showing us real people. You don't have to believe in the event to be able to understand the emotions, but the movie, for the most part, is more interested in the dramatic revelations (Colton met a great-grandfather who died long before he was born! How could he ever have known about him!?) than in what's actually happening in Colton's head or why his story has so shaken his father.

Near the end of the movie, Margo Martindale absolutely kills it in a scene where she discusses, more or less, the nature of faith and grief and how it's shaped her view of religion and Todd as a minister. That scene — where an emotionally raw Nancy has an honest conversation with an emotionally and professionally wrecked Todd — is fascinating. Movies don't tend to talk about faith in this way — religion is a backdrop, a source of villainy or an accepted fact but it's seldom a thing people turn over and consider. Nancy and Todd are two normal people, struggling with faith. It's not exactly robots fighting dinosaurs in terms of a subject for cinema, but the two actors in the scene pull it off and make it completely engrossing. Had the movie done this in more than one scene, *Heaven is for Real* could have been something — a character study, a look at the way faith works in different people, a straightforward tale of how a family deals with a child who has had an experience that can't really be explained.

Instead, instead of being something, anything, the movie is confoundingly nothing. I can't see how it is particularly of use or interest to believers — it doesn't even really have much to say about heaven, either as a place or as a part of a religion's belief system. It weirdly doesn't even have a really solid position on what happened to Colton or what that means to Todd. And, actually, it doesn't really have a solid position on why not having a solid position about heaven matters — I could respect a movie that says "Colton went to heaven and it is run by a green-eyed Jesus, the end" or a movie that says "Colton may or may not have 'been to heaven' but it's this other thing (the message he spread, his father's renewed faith, whatever) that matters." But this movie does neither of those things. Or maybe it tries to do both of those things. I can't tell. It's a mess of histrionics, gauzy close-ups of Colton and Greg Kinnear playing Todd Burpo like a man nearing a mental breakdown. And even Todd's shaken faith and attempts to understand Colton are soft-played. It's as if the movie wanted so badly to placate every potential viewpoint — from skeptics to people who can cite scripture minutiae like *Lord of the Rings* fans can talk about elvish swords — that it just threw up its hands, slapped some CGI angels in a few scenes and hoped everything would just work out.

And that, I'm thinking, is not what Christians are looking for when they want faith-based story-telling. **C-**

Rated PG for thematic material including some medical situations. Directed by Randall Wallace with a screenplay by Chris Parker and Randall Wallace (from the book of the same name by Todd Burpo and Lynn Vincent), Heaven is for Real *is an hour and 40 minutes long and distributed by Sony.*

Transcendence (PG-13)

Scientists bloviate about the singularity in the exhausting *Transcendence*, a vaguely interesting thought experiment that, like overchewed gum stretched to the breaking point, eventually loses all flavor or sticking power.

A leader in the field of artificial intelligence, scientist Will Caster (Johnny Depp) becomes the target of a group of anti-tech terrorists. On the same day they kill computer scientists across the country, Will is shot. He lives, but the true injury comes from a poison the bullet was laced with. Doctors tell him that, with treatment, he has maybe four weeks to live.

Though developing a ground-breaking AI system in his university lab, Will decides to spend his remaining weeks at home with his wife, fellow scientist Evelyn (Rebecca Hall). Though he seems

REVIEWLETS

* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go to hippopress.com

Opening soon:

April 25: *The Other Woman* (PG-13) stars Cameron Diaz and Leslie Mann in a story of many women fooled by a handsome, two-handed Jamie Lannister (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau); ***The Quiet Ones* (PG-13)** is a horror movie starring Jared "Lane Price" Harris; ***Brick Mansions* (Pg-13)** Paul Walker and parkour!

May 2: *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* (PG-13) It's summer, y'all! Andrew Garfield kicks off the season of popcorn.

Now playing:

Bad Words (R)
Jason Bateman, Kathryn Hahn.
Bateman directs and stars in this aggressively naughty tale of a grown man who decides to compete for the grand prize in a kids' spelling bee. **B-**

Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG-13)
Chris Evans, Scarlett Johannson.
Marvel shockingly keeps the not-always-coherent story (and its reprecussions on the ever-metastasizing Marvel universe) together, ultimately entertaining with fun superheroics. **B-**

Divergent (PG-13)
Shailene Woodley, Theo James.
Interesting characters don't quite save this YA adaptation from uneven world-building and a general blahness. **C+**

Draft Day (PG-13)
Kevin Costner, Jennifer Garner.
This surprisingly-not-awful drama offers a look inside the machinations of the NFL draft. **B-**

The Grand Budapest Hotel (R)
Ralph Fiennes, F. Murray Abraham.
Wes Anderson presents this beautiful, diorama-like fairy tale of an Eastern European hotel and its eccentric concierge during the first half of the 20th century. **A**

Mr. Peabody & Sherman (PG)
Ty Burrell, Allison Janney.
Charming update of characters from the Rocky & Bullwinkle mix, this movie has cute puns, history nerd (not to mention nerd nerd) moments and a sweet father-son story. **B+**

Noah (PG-13)
Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly.
Darren Aronofsky begat this entertainingly nutso riff on the Bible story wherein Noah builds an ark, weathers a flood and can't figure out what to do with his hair and beard. **B-**

Oculus (R)
Katee Sackhoff, Karen Gillan.
A woman attempts to destroy the evil mirror that destroyed her family in this hearteningly clever horror film. **B-**



Transcendence

resigned to what's coming, she is desperate. So when she goes to the lab to shut down his system, she takes a few of the ultra-fast processors with her. Reading the research of another AI scientist, Evelyn decides she has the know-how and the raw materials to try to "download" Will's essential Willness. With the help of their friend Max (Paul Bettany), the couple set up a lab and record everything about Will — his voice, his brain patterns. One night, the computer shudders and Evelyn looks over to see that Will has died. She, I don't know, goes to "All Programs" and clicks on "Will" I guess but nothing happens. But then, as with many a software problem, she finds that a reboot of part of the system leads to the appearance of, well, something. At first, a question — is anybody there — appears on the screen. Then Will's voice starts to come out of the machine, which "sees" Evelyn via a camera. Max instantly has his doubts — it's not really Will, he tells her. He thinks it's the AI to whom the processors previously belonged, or maybe somebody else, but it isn't Will.

Evelyn kicks him out and, on his way home from a bar, Max is kidnapped by Bree (Kate Mara), the leader of the anti-tech terrorist group. They use Max's phone's GPS to try to figure out where Evelyn is, having guessed what she's doing. But they soon find it's too late — with Evelyn's help, "Will" has uploaded himself to the Internet.

Now as omnipresent as a god or a cat-playing-piano video, Will can help the FBI agent (Cillian Murphy) investigating his murder and the fellow computer scientist (Morgan Freeman) working on an AI project track down the terrorists. He can set up a company that quickly earns millions in the stock market. He can use that money to buy land in the middle of the desert. And, with Evelyn's help, he can construct a massive laboratory, powered by an even more massive solar power farm.

Two years later, "Will" and his vast computer brain, plus his access to all information all over the world, is starting to create not just advanced computer systems but nanotechnology that has the power to heal humans — heal them and control them. As Will's powers and abilities continue to grow, Evelyn might still be in love with her operating-system husband, but she also starts to become just a bit freaked out by him.

Actually, Rebecca Hall doesn't show much in the way of emotion until late in the movie, when she starts to get mad that an all-knowing Will is tracking her hormone levels and heart rates. He's a computer who appears in giant screens all over the lab, including in her living area, where he stares at her while she eats (and presumably gets dressed and pees) — is she really shocked that he's tracking her chemical levels? This was just one nit that I found myself picking throughout this tech-jargon-heavy but actual-idea-light movie. The story of Will and Evelyn is bookended by Max in some future, power-free world but that world actually makes no sense when you return to it at the movie's end. In fact, a lot of what happens and people's motivations (particularly Evelyn's) make no sense. And between Evelyn's generally emotion-free yet naive approach to the world and Will's blowhard strangeness (both as a person and as a computer interface), I wasn't able to fall back on their relationship as a thing on which to peg my caring.

From its title to its blowhard discussions of technology and humanity, *Transcendence* has glimmers of interesting ideas but remains lifeless. **D+**

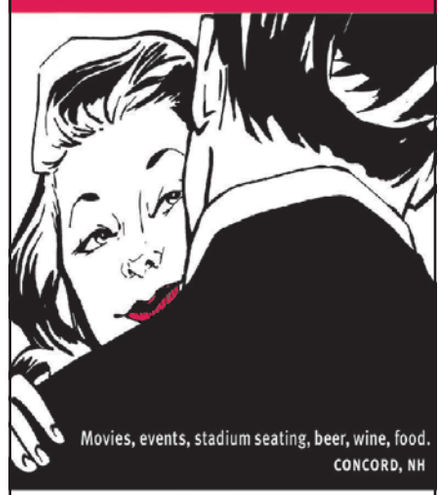
Rated PG-13 for science fiction action and violence, some bloody images, brief strong language and sensuality. Directed by Wally Pfister and written by Jack Paglen, Transcendence *is an hour and 59 minutes long and is distributed by Warner Bros.*

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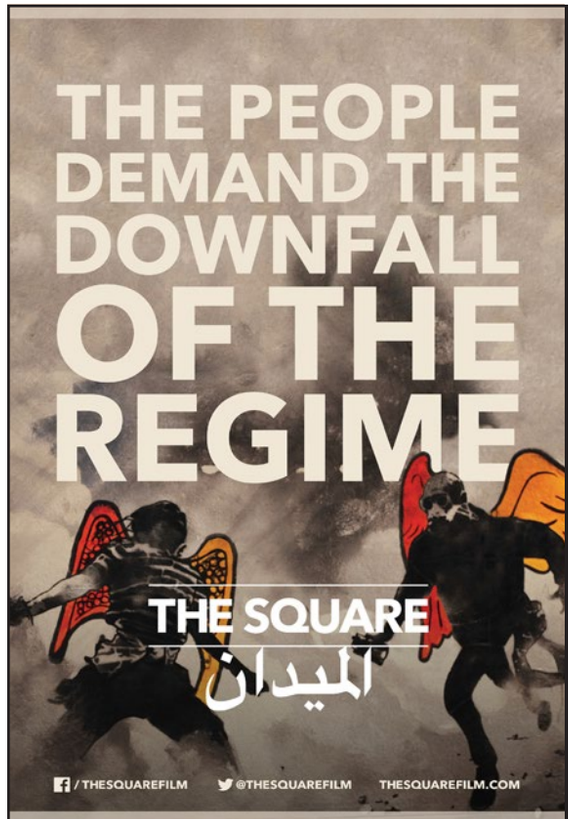
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MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES
11 S. Main St., Concord, redrivertheatres.org, 224-4600

• ***The Railway Man*** (R, 2013) on Fri., April 25, at 1:15, 3:45, 6:15 & 8:45 p.m.; Sat., April 26, at 1:15, 3:45, 6:15 & 8:45 p.m.; Sun., April 27, at 1:15, 3:45 & 6:15 p.m.; Mon., April 28, at 2:05, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; Tues., April 29, at 2:05, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; Wed., April 30, at 2:05, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; & Thurs., May 1, at 2:05, 5:25 & 8 p.m.

• ***The Grand Budapest Hotel*** (R, 2014) on Fri., April 25, at 1, 3:15, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Sat., April 26, at 1, 3:15, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Sun., April 27, at 1, 3:15, 5:30 p.m.; Mon., April 28, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Tues., April 29, at 2 p.m.; Wed., April 30, at 2 p.m.; & Thurs., May 1, at 2:10 p.m.

• ***Finding Vivian Maier*** (NR, 2013) on Fri., April 25, at 2, 4, 6 & 8 p.m.; Sat., April 26, at 2, 4, 6 & 8 p.m.; Sun., April 27, at 4 & 6 p.m.; Mon., April 28, at 2:10, 5:45 & 7:30 p.m.; Tues., April 29, at 2:10, 5:45 & 7:30 p.m.; Wed., April 30, at 2:10 p.m.; & Thurs., May 1, at 2:10, 5:45 & 7:30 p.m.

• ***Knights of Badassdom*** (R, 2013) on Sat., April 26, at 9:30 p.m.

• ***The Sound of Music*** (G, 1965) on Sun., April 27, at 4 p.m.

• ***The Square*** (NR, 2013) on Tues., April 27, at 7 p.m.

• ***American Winter*** (NR, 2013) on Wed., April 30, at 6 p.m.

• ***Brave Miss World*** (NR, 2013) on Wed., April 30, at 6:30 p.m.

• ***Locke*** (R, 2013) on Thurs., May 1, at 7 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL
40 Main St. in Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

• ***Watermark*** (PG, 2013) Fri., April 25, through Thurs., May 1, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screenings on Sun., April 27, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.

• ***The Face of Love*** (PG-13, 2013) Fri., April 25, through Thurs., May 1, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening Sun., April 27, at 2 p.m.

• ***The Pink Panther*** (1964) Sat., April 26, at 4:30 p.m.

• ***Destiny*** (1921) at Wilton Town Hall Theatre Sun., April 27, at 4:30 p.m., silent film with musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis.

CAPITOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS
44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com

• ***Cosi Fan Tutte*** (Met HD) on Sat., April 26, at 1 p.m.

NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE
Concord campus, 62 N. Main St., Concord, snobfilmfestival.com, 715-2306

• **Halfway to SNOB** one-night free event, six favorite short films from 2013 SNOB film festival, Tues., April 29, 7-8:30 p.m.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY
405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us

• ***Frozen*** (PG, 2013) on Mon., April 28, at 2:30 p.m.

• ***Despicable Me 2*** (PG, 2013) on Wed., April 30, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY
76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us

• ***Treasure Buddies*** (G, 2012) on Fri., April 25, at 3 p.m.

• ***Pirate Fairy*** (G, 2014) on Fri., May 2, at 3 p.m.

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY
2500 N. River Road

• ***Frozen*** (PG, 2013) at the Student Center Last Chapter Pub Sat., April 26, 7-9 p.m.

BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-3023, bedfordonline.com, free movie at 2 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month, presented through Parks & Recreation

• ***What's Up Doc*** (G, 1972) on Sun., April 27, at 2 p.m.

• ***Frozen*** (PG, 2013) on Tues., April 29, at 1:30 p.m.

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, onconcord.com/library

• ***Frozen*** (PG, 2013) on Fri., April 25, at 2:30 p.m.

HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY
31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org, Free films and popcorn.

• **Movie Matinee** on Thurs., May 1, at 2 p.m.

• **Family Night at the Movies** on Thurs., May 1, at 6 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY
NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for a movie schedule.

• ***Brave*** (PG, 2012) on Sat., April 26, at 2 p.m.

• ***Gloria*** (R, 2013) Tues., April 29, at 7 p.m.

GOFFSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
2 High St., 497-2102, goffstownlibrary.com

• **Kid's Movie Afternoon** Fri., May 2, at 1 p.m.

MERRIMACK PUBLIC LIBRARY
470 Daniel Webster Highway in Merrimack, 424-5021, merrimack.lib.nh.us

• **Movie Matinee Day** Tues., April 29, at 1:30 p.m.

COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY MAGDALEN
511 Kearsarge Mountain Road, Warner

• ***Steamboat Bill Jr.*** (1928) silent film with musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis Sat., April 26, at 8 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL
28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org, Some films are screened at Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St.

• ***Dirty Wars*** (R, 2013) Thurs., April 24, at 7 p.m.

• ***Le Week-End*** (R, 2013) Thurs., April 24, at 7 p.m.

• **4th Annual Wild and Scenic Film Festival** Fri., April 25, at 7 p.m.

• ***The Lunchbox*** (R, 2013) Sat., April 26, at 3 & 7 p.m.; Sun., April 27, at 7 p.m.; Tues., April 29, at 7 p.m.; Wed., April 30, at 7 p.m.

• ***Alan Partridge*** (R, 2013) Sat., April 26, at 7 p.m., & Tues., April 29, at 7 p.m.

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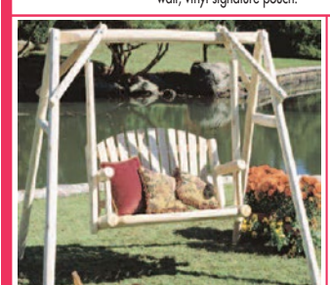
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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Tooky tonk:** The pride of Contoocook, gonzo trio **Rippin' E Brakes**, return to Concord to play visceral Americana that sounds like it rose from a swampy ooze. Songs with titles like "Kills My Buzz Thinkin' 'Bout Death" and "Neil Young Knew Charlie Manson" are uneasily jaunty, seemingly the product of a lost Gram Parsons/Captain Beefheart session. See Rippin' E Brakes on Thursday, April 24, at 9 p.m. at Penuche's Ale House, 16 Bicentennial Square, Concord. Listen at soundcloud.com/derekastles.

• **Dynamic duo:** With a high-tech rewire, it's easy to think that a bass-playing leprechaun is hiding in **Sirsy** drummer/singer/keyboard player Melanie Krahmer's kick drum. The two-person band — Rich Libutti is the guitarist and tech wizard — plays a whole lot bigger than any duo should, and Krahmer's voice is a force of nature (she also plays flute). See Sirsy on Friday, April 25, at 9 p.m. at The Publick House and Prohibition Music Room, 45 N. Main St., Rochester. See facebook.com/sirsyband.

• **Hep cats:** Gotta love a band that knows its sweet spot. For **The Atomic Raygun**, that would be rockabilly, circa 1955-59. The band's debut CD tears the roof off with covers of Eddie Cochran, Gene Vincent, Elvis and Billy Lee Riley's "Red Hot" — fans of Robert Gordon and the Stray Cats should eat this stuff up. See The Atomic Raygun on Saturday, April 26, at 8:30 p.m. at British Beer Company, 1071 S. Willow St., Manchester. Listen at soundcloud.com/the-atomic-raygun.

• **Treinta años:** A Concord restaurant presenting live music six nights a week marks 30 years in business. **Mike Morris** provides the tunes; the Strafford singer-songwriter is working on a new album with Brian Coombes at Rocking Horse Studio and expects a summer release. His breezy, easygoing tunes will appeal to fans of Jack Johnson and Ray Lamontagne. See Mike Morris on Sunday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. at Hermanos Cocina, 11 Hills Avenue, Concord. Listen at reverbnation.com/mikemorris.

• **Blues Monday:** A weekly event hosted by **Wild Eagles Blues Band** is also S.I.N. night, offering drink specials to service industry workers. The house band features song and guitar team John Webb and Gary Clark, harp player Conor Fitzgerald, Nate Mattern on drums, saxophonist Nick Shanley, Brian Randall on keys, singer Marisa Mija and … you. Yes, it's a jam session. Attend Stormy Mondays on Monday, April 28, at 7 p.m. at Stone Church, 5 Granite St., Newmarket. See stonechurchrocks.com.

Follow on Twitter: @hipponitemusic
Listen on Spotify: spoti.fi/11v1t3b

NITE

Uncomfortable laughs

Comedian Gilbert Gottfried performs in Manchester

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com



Gilbert Gottfried

Don't ever tell Gilbert Gottfried it's too soon to crack wise. In 2011, tweeting jokes in the immediate aftermath of a Japanese disaster cost him a job as an insurance company spokesman. Fast forward to 2012, and the subject was fodder for weathermen. *That* offends *him*.

"I heard a guy say, 'It's a real tsunami out there, so take your umbrella,' and I remember thinking, so, if you wait a year a joke's a joke and not a crime against humanity," the comedian said in a recent phone interview. "It's so hypocritical, the idea that tragedy plus time equals comedy."

In the freak-out that greeted his remarks, Gottfried was fired as the Aflac talking duck and forced to apologize far and wide. After being savaged throughout cyberspace, he bristles at Internet-fueled hysteria and faux recrimination.

"It's an endless list of people and apologies, I think it's in the millions," he said bitingly. Those "who feign outrage are also patting themselves on the back, saying, 'Aren't I a great person? I'm offended.'"

"George Orwell predicted that Big Brother would be watching us … it's the future, and every schmuck and their mother is watching us — that is what Twitter and the Internet has become," he said, bemoaning an absence of qualified opinion leaders in social discourse. "I have a sentimental feeling about the old-time lynch mobs. Because at least they actually had to put their shoes on and go out and get their hands dirty — now they are sitting in their underwear at the computer."

Though these days shock is Gottfried's stock in trade, early on as a teenage comic in Greenwich Village he took a more conventional approach.

"I would go out of my way not to use a dirty word, because I wanted to know if the joke would be funny on its own," he said. "As for the dirty and shocking stuff … I like the idea of the audience feeling a little uncomfortable, but laughing anyway."

Soon after 9/11, the comic told a New York City audience that he couldn't get a direct flight because "they said they had to stop at the Empire State Building first."

Likely the first joke told by anyone about the terrorist attacks, it was met with boos, hisses and rumbling chairs. Someone yelled out "too soon," which a confused Gottfried "thought meant I didn't take enough time between the setup and the punch line."

To recover, Gottfried launched into the vulgar joke at the center of the 2005 film *The Aristocrats*.

"I've already lost them, might as well go to the bottom level of Hell," he recalled thinking. Amazingly, the response was cheers and a standing ovation. "One reporter said it was like I performed a mass tracheotomy on the audience. It was funny … terrorism is bad taste, but incest and bestiality are good taste."

Gottfried's edgy standup talent is complemented by a steady career as a voice actor — the parrot Iago in Disney's *Aladdin* and roles in *Hercules* and *Fairly Odd Parents*, among many others. Most recently, he voiced a villain on the Nickelodeon reboot of *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*.

"It is strange — I always say my career walks the tightrope between children's programming and hard-core porn," said Gottfried with a laugh. "I remember this actually happened — there was a premiere when *The Aristocrats* first came out in theaters. In the middle of the movie, some woman jumped up, shocked and angered, saying, "This isn't *The Aristocats*!" I thought, 'Gee, I wonder at what point you realized that?'"

Gilbert Gottfried (featuring Rob Steen & Kennedy Richard)

When: Friday, April 25, at 9 p.m.
Where: Headliners Comedy Club, 700 Elm St. (Radisson Hotel), Manchester
Tickets: $25 at headlinerscomedyclub.com

Only the "g" is silent

Danielle Miraglia joins James Montgomery for Manchester show

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Blues veteran James Montgomery returns to Milly's Tavern on April 25 and, continuing a tradition begun when the occasional series launched in 2012, the harmonica player and singer has invited a female guitar player to open the show, and sit in with his band at night's end.

Danielle Miraglia should complement Montgomery nicely. Steeped in Delta

James Montgomery with Danielle Miraglia

When: Friday, April 25, at 9 p.m.
When: Milly's Tavern, 500 Commercial St., Manchester
Tickets: $10 at millystavern.com

blues, with a thumb-and-finger picking style owing plenty to her role model Mississippi John Hurt and a bit to the Piedmont school of guitar playing. She's a musical dynamo who sings with gutsy passion, blows a mean harp and writes songs both tender and timely. Only the "g" in her name is silent.

A few inches north of five feet tall, Miraglia also proves the adage that great things come in small packages. She performs on a tall stool while toe-tapping rhythm on a custom-built percussion board she calls "Stompee."

"I paid full price for red Frye boots, and I justify the expense by saying they're a musical instrument," Miraglia said after a recent set at Sunapee Coffee House. "I used to sit on a chair and I needed to be higher, so I came up with this thing shaped like a U … a friend of mine who can build anything made it for me."

Miraglia found her blues muse as a teenager listening to Janis Joplin on a Walkman as she strolled along Revere Beach. Before then, she fancied herself a rocker.

"When I decided I wanted to play guitar, I loved heavy metal," she said. "Guns 'n Roses; then Hendrix and Zeppelin."

Knocking around the mid-'90s Cambridge/Somerville open mike scene, she found the blues.

"I started hearing that sound and found that fingerpicking was more comfortable to me," she said. "When I got a Gibson J-45, it changed everything. It taught me how to play; I never wanted to put it down."

Her affection is evident; the six-string acoustic is scuffed from use, looking three times its age and imbued with soul. To hone her skills, Miraglia took lessons from local guitarist Jeff Bartley — "great fingerpicker with wonderful tone" — and studied archival footage of Hurt's playing. She watched Happy Traum and John Sebastian instructional videos interpreting the blues master's style.

Throughout, "I tried to find my own feel, not belabor every tiny note that happens," she said. "Because that's not my nature. By not copying it exactly, I found my own way."

After graduating from Emerson College,



Danielle Miraglia

she continued to play out in Boston area bars, honing her onstage patter and writing songs. In 2001, getting laid off from a day job became a sign to play music full time. Miraglia released her first CD that year.

Vocally, Miraglia echoes her idol Janis and white blues great Bonnie Bramlett and evinces stunning sensitivity as a songwriter. She held the coffeehouse crowd rapt on "You Don't Know Nothin'." From her 2005 album *Nothing Romantic*, the song about easy judgment closely reflects the current political divide. "Loud Talker" is a charmer, a sexy shuffle about a bar scene that's drunken or bipolar — take your pick. "Hold me, don't let me be lonely … get off of me," she sings.

She tells charming stories, about her father's lifelong frustration with Red Sox preceding "So Close" and getting sucked into her new mother in law's enthusiasm for big weddings to introduce the love song "You Make Everything Better."

Her Coffee House set closed with "Choir," a sing-along perfect for the Sunapee church basement setting, and an apt reflection of the 1960s spirit and modern doubt at the heart of Miraglia's music.

"When Dylan sang his words into the wind, it rumbled like a universal hymn … no one was listening but the choir."

Night Life

Music, Comedy & Parties

• **GEOFF MULDAUR** at Flying Goose (40 Andover Road, New London 526-6899) on Thu., April 24, at 8 p.m. Geoff Muldaur is one of the great voices and musical forces to emerge from the folk, blues and folk-rock scenes centered in Cambridge, MA and Woodstock, NY.

NHTI COMEDY NIGHT at Wellness Center Gym (31 College Drive, Concord 271-6484 x4300) on Fri., April 25, at 7:30 p.m.) - $20 ($10/students) - Stephen Lynch will always consider himself "a musician trapped in the body of a comedian." His unique blend of music-based comedy has earned him fiercely loyal fans around the world.

• **BLUEGRASS CONCERT** at First Parish Church (218 Central Ave., Dover 742-5664) on Fri., April 25, at 0:00 p.m. $10 - Featuring Eric Sinclair with Drowned Valley and Route 1 Bluegrass. Eric, a Dover resident, has performed at the Cocheco Arts Festival has recorded several albums.

• **TOM RUSH** at Peterborough Players Theater (55 Hadley Road, Peterborough 827-2905) on Fri., April 25, at 8 p.m. $45 - Tom Rush is a gifted musician and performer, whose shows offer a musical celebration...a journey into the tradition and spectrum of what music has been, can be, and will become.

• **MINK HILLS BAND** at MainStreet BookEnds (Main St., Warner 456-3745) on Sat., April 26, at 7 p.m. $10 - Bluegrass, swing, folk, and original compositions. Taking their name from the beautiful and remote Mink Hills of the Sunapee region, the group has been playing in the region for over 20 years.

• **GAZPACHO** at Govenor's Inn (78 Wakefield St., Rochester 509-1916) on Sat., April 26, at 7 p.m. $25 - Benefit for Strafford County Family Justice Center. New England's premiere 80's Tribute Band. Featuring three lead vocalists and chops to spare,

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BURNING BRIGHT

With her one-of-a-kind show Sandyland, Sandra Bernhard sharply blends theatre, rock 'n roll and standup with a little burlesque and cabaret. Bernhard appears Friday, April 25, at 8 p.m. at the Silver Center for the Arts (14 Main St., Plymouth 535-2787). In-your-face performing combines her hysterical insight, outspoken views, outrageous mouth and her band, The Flawless Zircons. A brilliant unity of hilarious diatribes on the state of modern culture and classic rock attitude burns smart, still having all the raucous energy of youth. Tickets are $15-$35 at plymouth.edu/silver-center.

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Gazpacho covers all the hits from the MTV Decade.

• **METROPOLITAN OPERA: COSI FAN TUTTE** at Cinemagic & IMAX (1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett 644-4629) on Sat., April 26, at 12:55 p.m. $25 - Music Director James Levine conducts Mozart's beloved opera about testing the ties of love.4 hours in HD.

• **SONGWRITERS CIRCLE** at Brook House (14 Mink Hill Lane, Warner 456-2364) on Sat., April 26, at 6:30 p.m. Paul Hubert is special guest. Open to all Songwriters, Performers, and Listeners. Meeting monthly on the 4th Saturday. Guest Performer followed by an open circle for all. Encouraging the sharing of ideas and techniques of the craft.

• **BALLROOM DANCE NIGHT** at Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket 659-4410) on Sat., April 26, at 7:30 p.m. Live music with the DB's Orchestra, doors open at 7:00pm, music and dancing - $14/per person, full cash bar available, reservations suggested.

• **BRAD MYRICK QUINTET** at Amoskeag Studio (250 Commercial St. #2007, Manchester 315-9320) on Sat., April 26, at 8 p.m. $15 ($10/students) - CD Release Show; the quintet is an eclectic modern instrumental group that performs Myrick's original compositions, as well as pieces by tenor saxophonist Richard Gardzina.

• **ROY ZIMMERMAN** at UU Church (669 Union St., Manchester 625-6854) on Tue., April 29, at 0:00 p.m. $18 - Funny songs about fracking, creationism, marijuana laws, government shutdown, same-sex marriage, guns, taxes and abstinence across the country, Zimmerman calls it the Blue Dot Tour.

• **JOHN PERRAULT** at Exeter Public Library (4 Chestnut St., Exeter 772-3101) on Tue., April 29, at 6:30 p.m. Poet & musician presents "Spring Poets: Barbara Allen to Blackbird" - Spring Music Series performances are free and open to the public in the Bruce Sloan Reading Area in the Adult Services section.

• **PATRIOT DRUM AND FIFE DUO** at Bedford Public Library (3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-2300) on Sun., May 4, at 2:30 p.m. Free. David Vose is a full professor at Berklee College of Music. In 1999, he was inducted into the Drum Corps Hall of Fame. Sue Walko is an experienced fifer from Connecticut.

• **ACOUSTIC OPEN MIC** at Durham Public Library (49 Madbury Road, Durham 868-6699) on Wed., May 7, at 6:30 p.m. Come to play, come to sing, come to listen; all are welcome to a night of music hosted by singer-songwriter Steve Brennan. Walk-in, or schedule ahead of time with Steve 603-679-8745.

• **SCOTT KIRBY** at Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord 344-4747) on Wed., May 7, at 8 p.m. Singer-songwriter has appeared with Jimmy Buffett, Carole King, and Tom Rush, and has co-writes with Peter Mayer of the Coral Reefer Band and legendary drummer Russ Kunkel, who produced his sixth CD, Row Me Home.

• **FLEETWOOD MIX** at Stockbridge Theatre (5 Pinkerton St., Derry 965-0754) on Fri., May 9, at 7 p.m. $35/$30 - Benefit for Center for Life Management Foundatio. Fleetwood Mix's incredible authenticity, harmonies, instrumentation and on-stage chemistry has surprised and captivated audiences from coast-to-coast.

• **MOTHER'S DAY BIG BAND DANCE** at Lake Opechee Inn & Spa (62 Doris Ray Court, Lakeport 273-0861) on Sat., May 10, at 6 p.m. $55 - Dr. Sax's Swinging Big Band includes Charlie Jennison, Wendy Nottonson, Fred Haas, Titanium Tim Gilmore, Jerry Sabatini, Galen Doscher, Chris Veileux, Jonathan Lorent, Draa Hobbs, Chris Klaxton and more.

• **POTPOURRI – A MUSIC GALA** at Community Church (17 Main St., Durham 868-1230) on Sat., May 10, at 8 p.m. $15 - This evening will run the gamut from jazz to light opera to tango, from classics to musicals to Gilbert and Sullivan and will feature well-known musical personalities from the Durham area.

• **STEPPING OUT FOR PACE** at Elks Lodge (24 Old Mill Road, Epsom 2110-1882) on Sat., May 10, at 6 p.m. $20 - Strings & Things Band, a delicious country buffet dinner and an exciting Silent Auction to benefit PACE Career Academy's work - educating teens through innovative ways.

• **DOUG DANFORTH** at Exeter Public Library (4 Chestnut St., Exeter 772-3101) on Tue., May 13, at 1 p.m. Local guitarist performs - Spring Music Series performances are free and open to the public. They will take place in the Bruce Sloan Reading Area in the Adult Services section of the Exeter Public Library.

• **ANN SWEETEN** at Franklin Opera House (316 Central St., Franklin 934-1901) on Sat., May 17, at 7:30 p.m. $22 - Internationally celebrated American Composer and Concert Pianist, her last release, In the Wake, she co- produced with Grammy award-winning artist/ producer and founder of Windham Hill Records, Will Ackerman.

• **MUSIC SCHOOL SHOWCASE** at Tupelo Music Hall (2 Young Rd., Londonderry 505-4282) on Sun., May 18, at 9 a.m. North Main Music's semi-annual concert provides its students with the opportunity to celebrate and share their skills and passion for music with family, friends and community.

• **BLUEGRASS JAM SESSION** at Garrison Players Arts Center (Route 4, Rollinsford 750-4278) on Fri., May 23, at 6:30 p.m. Musicians and Fans: Come listen or jam with Mark Wiley and his Bluegrass Friends.

• **NEW LEGACY SWING BAND** at Kingswood Arts Center (21 McManus Road, Wolfeboro 569-7710) on Sat., May 24, at 7:30 p.m. $25 - New Legacy Swing Band recreates the great swing classic sounds of the Big Band Era. Begun in the early 90's as 'The Little Swing Band,' the band has evolved into one of Northern New England's most sought-after dance orchestras.

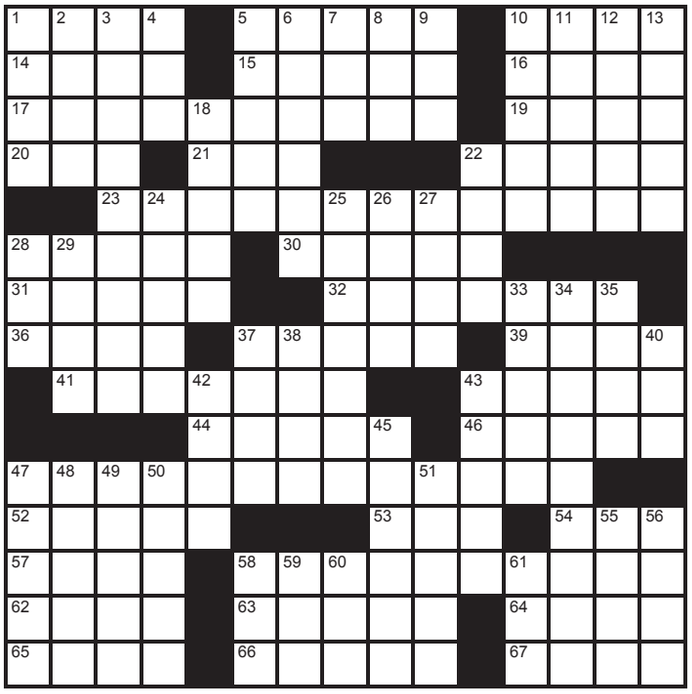
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Puzzles for the Deaf

Across

1. Come before "aahs"
5. Sing/songer from NY island?
10. Cornershop had a 'Brimful Of' it
14. Elton John '__ Her Up'
15. Josh Homme band (abbr)
16. America 'Sister Golden __'
17. '68 Small Faces single about doing nothing on the Lord's day? (4,6)
19. Ozzfest 'Evolve' rockers
20. __ And Robbie
21. Legendary 'Happy Birthday, Twenty-One!' West
22. Pantera 'Cemetary __'
23. '79 John Cougar song about tiny heaven? (5,8)
28. To not be able to stand a song
30. Robert Palmer 'I Didn't Mean To Turn __ __' (3,2)
31. Rush drummer/lyricist Neil32. John Mayer 'Great ___'
36. Everlast '99 hit
37. Collective Soul '__, Allegations, And Things Left Unsaid'
39. Nickelback's Kroeger
41. Like 'The First Cut' to Cat Stevens
43. '10 Gorillaz single44. Genesis '__ __ Deep' (2,3)
46. Chanter in Michael Jackson's 'Liberian Girl' Mbulu
47. Josh Homme band __ Metal (6,2,5)
52. Used by tour bus driver
53. Baird of Georgia Satellites
54. 'Closer To Love' Kearney
57. Sing/songer Cabrera
58. Debut '05 The Academy Is... album/song (6,4)
62. Hank Williams III '__ Up And Loud'
63. Queens Of The Stone Age '__ __ Knows' (2,3)
64. 'Beautiful Freak' band
65. 70s groovers __ Corporation
66. Might hear Jewel do it on a mountainside
67. '10 Ringo Starr album where he asks the question? (1,3)

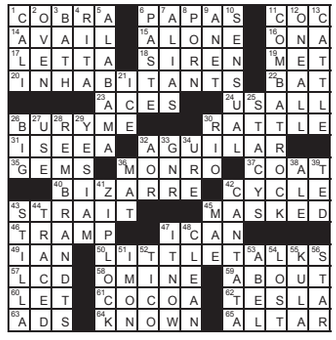


Down

1. Rockers are night __
2. Like unwritten record deal
3. Simon & Garfunkel '__ __ Of Winter' (4,5)
4. They Might Be Giants song for a detective?
5. Like musical peer
6. Yes 'Owner Of A ___ Heart'
7. Indie rockers Ambulance __
8. Sheryl Crow 'Everyday __ __ Winding Road' (2,1)
9. Chicago 'Hard To __ I'm Sorry'
10. Warped tour band The Youth __
11. White of Santigold
12. Belinda Carlisle 'Where Love __'
13. Death In June 'To Drown __ __' (1,4)
18. Trevor Rabin 'Get __ Theme'
22. Gordon of Violent Femmes
24. Steve of Dixie Dregs
25. Kansas '__ __ Know Return' (5,2)
26. Was a 'Gigolo', to Syd Barrett
27. STP 'Heaven And Hot __'
28. Dickies 'You Drive Me __'
29. Keane '__ And Break'
33. Eight member band
34. '96 ZZ Top album
35. Bryan Ferry's 'River'
37. There's 3 French ones in 'The 12 Days Of Christmas'
38. Finch album/hit 'What It __ __ Burn' (2,2)
40. Possibly named genre with 'Hardcore 81'
42. Warrant eats lots of 'Cherry' ones
43. Galactic Cowboys 'Media ___'
45. Sick Puppies hit off 'Tri-Polar' (3,3)
47. U2 'Last Night On __'
48. Joe Jackson 'Mad __ __' (2,3)
49. LA's __ Of Rockets
50. Ronnie and Jani
51. Paul Stanley's canvas holder, when painting
55. 'Washington County' Guthrie
56. Crash __ Dummies 'God Shuffled His Feet'
58. '02 OAR album '__ Time Now'
59. Toilet, to UK rockers
60. Music The Jam revived
61. Outkast '__ Ya!'

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4/17



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Copper Door
15 Leavy Drive 488-2677
Shorty's
206 Rte 101, 488-5706
Starbucks
220 S. River Rd 263-0061

Belmont
El Jimador
171 DW Highway 527-8122
Lakes Region Casino
1265 Laconia Rd. 267-7778
Lodge at Belmont
Route 106 877-872-2501
Top of the Town
88 Ladd Hill Rd 528-3244

Boscawen
Alan's
133 N. Main St. 753-6631

Bow
Chen Yang Li
520 South St. 228-8508

Bradford
Appleseed Restaurant
63 High St., 938-2100

Bristol
Back Room at Mill
2 Central St. 744-0405

Brookline
Cozy Tea Cart
104 Route 13 249-9111
Mad Hatter Bar & Grill
99 Route 13 672-1800

Concord
Barley House
132 N. Main St., 228-6363
Granite Restaurant
96 Pleasant St. 227-9000
Hermanos
11 Hills Ave. 224-5669
Makris
354 Sheep Davis Rd 225-7665
Penuche's Ale House
6 Pleasant St. 228-9833
Pit Road Lounge
388 Loudon Rd 226-0533
Red Blazer
72 Manchester St. 224-4101
Tandy's Top Shelf
1 Eagle Square 856-7614
True Brew Barista
3 Bicentennial Square 225-2776

Contoocook
Contoocook Covered Bridge
Cedar St. 746-5191

Deerfield
Lazy Lion Café
4 North Road 463-7374

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Coffee Factory
55 Crystal Ave 432-6006
Halligan Tavern
32 W. Broadway 965-3490
Sabatino's North
1 E. Broadway 432-7999
Steve-N-James Tavern
187 Rockingham Rd 434-0600

Dover
11th Frame Bar
887 B Central Ave. 742-9632
Asia
42 Third St. 742-9816
Barley Pub
328 Central Ave. 742-4226
Cara Irish Pub
11 Fourth St. 343-4390
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446 Central Ave. 750-4002
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2 Orchard St. 749-3838
Fury's Publick House
1 Washington St 617-3633
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144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954
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JD Chaser's
2B Burnham Rd 886-0792
Nan King Restaurant & Lounge
222 Central St. 882-1911
SoHo
49 Lowell Rd. 889-6889

Kingston
Bucco's Tavern
143 Main St. 642-4999
Kingston 1686 House
127 Main St. 642-3637

Laconia
Anthony's Pier
263 Lakeside Ave. 366-5855
Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro
89 Lake St. 524-0008
Broken Spoke Saloon
1072 Watson Rd 866-754-2526
Cactus Jack's
1182 Union Ave. 528-7800
Crazy Gringo
306 Lakeside Ave. 366-4411
Fratello's Lakes
799 Union Ave. 528-2022
Jazz Bar
290 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100
Margate Resort
76 Lake St. 524-5210
Naswa Resort
1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341
Paradise Beach Club
322 Lakeside Ave. 366-2665
Patio Garden
Lakeside Ave.
Pitman's Freight Room
94 New Salem St. 527-0043
Tower Hill Tavern
264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100
Lobster Pound
72 Endicott St. 366-2255
Weirs Beach Smokehouse
Rt 3 Laconia 366-2400

Londonderry
Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern
176 Mammoth Rd 437-2022
Stumble Inn Bar & Grill
20 Rockingham Road 432-3210
Twins Smoke Shop
128 Rockingham Rd
Whippersnappers
44 Nashua Rd No. 13 434-2660

Loudon
Hungry Buffalo
58 New Hampshire 129 798-3737

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625 Mammoth Road 623-2880
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333 Valley St. 792-1110
Drynk
20 Old Granite St. 641-2583
Element Lounge
1055 Elm St. 627-2922
Farm Bar & Grille
1181 Elm St. 641-3276
Fratello's
155 Dow St. 624-2022
Gaucho's Churrascaria
62 Lowell St. 669-9460
Hanover St. Chophouse
149 Hanover St. 644-2467
Ignite Bar & Grille
100 Hanover St. 494-6225
J. Dubs Coffee
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Jade Dragon MHT
1087 Elm St. 669-5523
Jam Factory
1211 Elm St. 203-1458
Jokers
1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947
Karma Hookah & Cigar Bar
1077 Elm St. 647-6653
Luigi's Pizza Bar & Grille
712 Valley St. 622-1021
Mad Bob's Saloon
342 Lincoln St. 669-3049
McGarvey's
1097 Elm St. 627-2721
Midnight Rodeo (Yard)
1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545
Milly's Tavern
500 Commercial St. 625-4444
Murphy's Taproom
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N'awlins Grille
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506 Valley St. 644-5559
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88 Market St. 666-4292
Theos
102 Elm St. 669-4678
TJ's Bar & Grill
23 Central St. 660-2241
Unwine'd
865 Second St. 625-9463
Wild Rover
21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722
XO on Elm
827 Elm St. 206-5721

Meredith
Camp
300 Daniel Webster Highway 279-3003
Giuseppe's Ristorante
312 Daniel Webster Hwy 279-3313

Merrimack
Giorgio's Ristorante & Martini Bar
707 Milford Road 883-7333
Homestead
641 Daniel Webster Highway 429-2022

Thursday, April 24

Boscawen
Alan's: John Pratt in Lounge

Concord
Granite: CJ Poole & The Sophisticated Approach
Hermanos: Jazz, Richard Gardzina
Penuche's: Rippen Ebrakes

Dover
Brickhouse: Jake Davis
Cara: Bluegrass w/ Steve Roy
Fury's: Erin's Guild
Sonny's: Koffin Kats

Gilford
Patrick's: Paul Warnick

Laconia
Paradise Beach Club: DJ Gin-E

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Steve Tolley
Whippersnappers: Napoleon In Rags

Manchester
Breezeway Pub: DJ Pet - Impulse
Club 313: DJ Pez & DJ Carlos
Derryfield: DJ Sean O'Brien
Drynk: Co-Ed Thursdays with DJ Shawn Danjah White & Friends
Karma: DJ Midas w/Reed on drums
Milly's: Lakes Region Big Band
N'awlins: John Chouinard
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Pat & the Hats
Strange Brew: Johnny & the Two-Timers

Merrimack
Homestead: Malcolm Salls

Milford
Pasta Loft: Scooter Way

Nashua
Boston Billiard Club: DJ & Beach Night

Newmarket
Stone Church: Live Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki; Turkuaz

Plaistow
Racks Bar & Grill: Blues Jam w/ Steve Devine

Portsmouth
British Beer Co.: Drew Yount
Dolphin Striker: Tore Down House/Jim Dozet & Dan Walker Band
Red Door: Local Heroes
Ri Ra: Josh Cramoy
Rudi's: Rob Gerry & Kelly Muse
Thirsty Moose: Ace Reporter w/ The Other Bone

Weare
Boondocks: Acoustic Thursdays: John & Roxanne

Friday, April 25

Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: DJ Redd Dogg

Boscawen
Alan's: Alternate Tunings

Concord
Makris: Tammy Lynn & Miles High
Pit Road Lounge: Shameless
Red Blazer: Boo Boo Groove
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: The Dobros

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brickhouse: B Cap; Ben Cook; James Dozet
Fury's: Call My Name
Kelley's Row: On Tap Band

Epping
Holy Grail: Sidecar

Gilford
Patrick's: Chris White

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Acoustic Jam hosted by John Erlman

Hampton
Savory Square Bistro: Dave Gerard
Wally's Pub: Ballout

Henniker
Country Spirit: Beechwood

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: DJ Alban

Laconia
Pitman's: Diane Blue Ladies of the Blues Showcase

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Kieran McNally

Jade Dragon
515 DW Highway 424-2280
Pacific Fusion
356 Daniel Webster Highway 424-6320

Milford
Chapanga's
168 Elm St. 249-5214
Clark's Tavern
40 Nashua St. 769-3119
Giorgio's Ristorante & Meze Bar
524 Nashua St. 673-3939
J's Tavern
63 Union Sq. 249-9222
Madison's Irish Pub
586 Nashua St. 672-2060
Pasta Loft
241 Union Sq. 672-2270
Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills
50 Emerson Road 673-7123

Nashua
603 Lounge
14 W. Hollis St. 821-5260
Amsterdam
8 Temple St. 204-5534
Arena Sportsbar & Nightclub
53 High St. 881-9060
Bernie's
522 Amherst St. 978-884-9536
Boston Billiard Club
55 Northeastern Blvd. 943-5630
Country Tavern
452 Amherst St. 889-5871
Cucina Toscana
427 Amherst St 821-7356
Fat Daddy's Café
650 Amherst St. 821-5136
Fody's Tavern
9 Clinton St. 577-9015
Haluwa Lounge
Nashua Mall 883-6662
Killarney's Irish Pub
9 Northeastern Blvd. 888-1551
Martha's Exchange
185 Main St. 883-8781
Michael Timothy's
212 Main St. 595-9334
Nashua Garden
121 Main St. 886-7363
O'Shea's Tavern & Cigar Bar
449 Amherst St. 943-7089
Peddler's Daughter
48 Main St. 821-7535
Pine Street Eatery
136 Pine St. 886-3501
Riverwalk Coffee
35 Railroad Sq. 578-0200
Slade's Food & Spirits
4 W. Hollis St. 886-1344
Stella Blu
70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557
Shorty's
48 Gusabel Ave 882-4070
Unums
47 E. Pearl St. 821-6500
Villa Banca
194 Main St. 598-0500
Wicked Twisted
38 East Hollis St. 577-1718

New Boston
Molly's Tavern
35 Mont Vernon Rd 487-2011

New London
Flying Goose
40 Andover Road 526-6899

Newington
Momma D's Casa di Pasta 347 Shattuck Way 431-6511

Newmarket
KJ's Sports Bar
N. Main St. 659-2329
Lamprey River Tavern
110 Main St. 659-3696
Stone Church
5 Granite St. 292-3546

Newport
Salt Hill Pub Newport
58 Main St. 863-7774

Newton
Hen House
85 S. Main St. 382-1705

North Hampton
Locals 215 Lafayette Rd. 379-2729

Northwood
Tough Tymes 221 Rochester Rd 942-5555

Pelham
Shooters
116 Bridge St. 635-3577

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub
3 School St. 924-6365

Plaistow
Corner Pocket
181 Plaistow Rd. 382-3130
Dugout Grille
93 Main St. 819-4947
Racks Bar & Grill
20 Plaistow Rd. 974-2406
Sad Café
148 Plaistow Rd. 382-8893

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid Island Grill
The hill at Hanover and High streets 427-2583
British Beer Company
103 Hanover St. 501-0515
Daniel Street Tavern
111 Daniel St. 430-1011
Dolphin Striker
15 Bow St. 431-5222
Fat Belly's
2 Bow St. 610-4227
Hilton Garden Inn
100 High St. 431-1499
Jitto's Supersteak
3131 Lafayette Rd 436-9755
MoJo's BBQ Grill
95 Brewery Lane 436-6656
Oar House
50 Ceres St. 436-4025
Paddy's American Grill
27 International Dr. 430-9450
Portsmouth Gas Light
64 Market St. 431-9122
Portsmouth Pearl
45 Pearl St. 431-0148
Press Room
77 Daniel St. 431-5186
Red Door
107 State St. 373-6827
Red Hook Brewery
35 Corporate Dr. 430-8600
Ri Ra Irish Pub
22 Market Sq. 319-1680
Rudi's
20 High St. 430-7834
Rusty Hammer
49 Pleasant St. 436-9289
Thirsty Moose
21 Congress St. 427-8645
Wet Bar at Pages
172 Hanover St. 436-0004

Raymond
Famous Legends
4 Essex Dr. 895-4474

Salem
Black Water Grill
43 Pelham Road 328-9013

Coffee Coffee
326 S. Broadway 912-5381
Jocelyn's Lounge
355 S. Broadway 870-0045
JT's Bar and Grill
326 S. Broadway 893-4055
Sayde's Restaurant
136 Cluff Crossing 890-1032
Varsity Club
67 Main St. 898-4344

Seabrook
Chop Shop Pub
920 Lafayette Rd 760-7704
Honey Pot Bar & Lounge
920 Lafayette Road 760-2013
Master McGrath's
Route 107 474-6540
Prime Time Sports Grill
620 Lafayette Rd 760-7230

Sunapee
One Mile West Tavern
6 Brook Road 863-7500
Sunapee Coffee House
Rte. 11 & Lower Main St. 229-1859

Tilton
Black Swan Inn
354 W. Main St. 286-4524

Weare
Boondocks Tavern & Country Grille
487 South Stark Highway 529-7747

Windham
Common Man
88 Range Road 898-0088
Jonathon's Lounge
Park Place Lanes, Route 28 800-892-0568
The Castleton
92 Indian Rock Rd. 800-688-5644

Whippersnappers: Barn Fire

Manchester
Breezeway: DJ Mckay NRG Dance
British Beer Co.: Yokeshire
Club 313: DJ Bob
Derryfield: Never in Vegas
Element: Friday Night Dance Party, DJ Smallz
Fratello's: Gary Lopez
Jade Dragon: DJ Midas w/ Reed on drums
Milly's: James Montgomery/Danielle Miraglia
Murphy's Taproom: Without Paris
N'awlins Grille: Rob Wolfe Trio
Penuche's: The Jauntee / Blanket Party
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Joshua Tree
Strange Brew: Mr. Nick & The Dirty Tricks
TJ's: DJ SP1 w/ Guests (MF Fridays)

Merrimack
Homestead: Timothy Gurshin
Jade Dragon: Live Music
Pacific Fusion: Live Music

Milford
Clark's Tavern: Charlie Christos
Pasta Loft: Bobby Radcliffe

Nashua
Amsterdam: Encircle
Arena: DJ Danjah / Borrowed Time
Country Tavern: Jeff Mrozek
Fody's: Jive Cats
Killarney's: AJ Jansen
Peddler's Daughter: Pop Farmers
Stella Blu: Rampage Trio

New Boston
Molly's: Brad Bosse / John Chouinard

Newmarket
Stone Church: Todo Bien w/Daemon Chili

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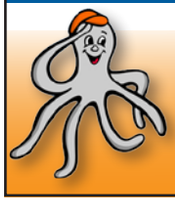
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BLUE DOT TOUR



With funny songs about fracking, creationism, marijuana laws, government shutdown, same-sex marriage, guns, taxes and abstinence, Roy Zimmerman plays Tuesday, April 29 at 7 p.m. at UU Church (669 Union St., Manchester 625-6854). He tours constantly, often playing in some of the least progressive places in America for the most progressive people there – he calls them "Blue Dots". The world is full of funny songs, but Zimmerman's hilarious, rhyme-intensive originals are also incisive calls to action, smart, savvy and undeniable. Tickets $18.

Peterborough
Harlow's: The Installers

Plaistow
Racks Bar & Grill: Live Band
Sad Cafe: Big Lonesome and 4 more

Portsmouth
British Beer Co.: DJ Johnny Friday
Dolphin Striker: The Groove Cats
Gas Light: Nightclub:Flashback Fridays w/ DJ KoKo P; Pub: Keith Henderson; Grill: Jimmy D
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Ameranouche
Press Room: Kenya Hall
Red Door: Jaminic
Ri Ra: Munk Duane Band
Rudi's: PJ Donahue Trio
Rusty Hammer: Live Music
Thirsty Moose: Hot Like Fire

Salem
Black Water Grill: Rick Breton & Crew

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Girls, Girls, Girls

Saturday, April 26

Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: Axis

Boscawen
Alan's: Gardener Berry

Concord
Hermanos: Live Jazz: Paul Donahue
Penuche's Ale House: Flabbergaster
Pit Road Lounge: Day Janeiro
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: George Brown Band

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brickhouse: Awesome Kong / Cross the Divide
Fury's: Miss Fairchild
Kelley's: Beneath the Sheets
Sonny's: Bamn Garrison, Laid to Dust, Guns of Brighton

Epping
Holy Grail: Sireteau

Epsom
Circle 9: Granite Country Band

Gilford
Patrick's: Dustin Ladale

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Napoleon in Rags

Hampton
Savory Square Bistro: Judith Murray
Wally's Pub: Baked Naked

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: Live Music
Tap House Grille: Jimmy Magoon and Marcel

Laconia
Baja Beach Club: DJ
Pitman's Freight Room: Dance Night w/ Mr. Nick & the Dirty Tricks w/special guest: Matt Stubbs

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Chris Donahue
Whippersnappers: Last Laugh

Manchester
British Beer: Atomic Raygun
Club 313: Life's A Drag Hosted by Monique
Derryfield: DJ Sean O'Brien
Element: Dance Party with DJ Smallz
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh
Jade Dragon: Live Music
Jam Factory: Open Mike; Thrifty's In-House Event @2pm
Midnight Rodeo: Fried Cactus
Murphy's Taproom: Best Not Broken
N'awlins Grille: Big Easy Quartet
Penuche's: Daemon Chili w/ Band Without Hands
Raxx: DJ Mike
Strange Brew: Jimmy East & the Soldiers of Soul
Wild Rover: Gentleman Outfit

Merrimack
Homestead: Lachlan Maclearn
Jade Dragon: Live Music

Milford
Clark's: Chemical Thirteen
J's Tavern: Acoustic Bahgoostyxs
Pasta Loft: Pearly Briggs

Nashua
Amsterdam: AJ Jansen
Arena: Dueling Pianos
Boston Billiard Club: DJ Anthem Throwback
Country Tavern: Johnnie James
Fody's: The Clones
Peddler's Daughter: Radio Star
Stella Blu: Rumble Fish

New Boston
Molly's: Russel Hill/Arthur James

Newmarket
Stone Church: Mike Doughty Question Jar Show

Peterborough
Harlow's: Ghost Dinner Band w/ Boogie on Alice

Plaistow
Racks Bar & Grill: Live Band
Sad Cafe: Rumors of Betrayal/ Cover One Eye and 9 more

Portsmouth
British Beer: Monkeys with Hammers
Dolphin Striker: NOWISNOW
Gas Light: Nightclub:w/ DJ KoKo P; Pub: Tony Santesse; Grill: Steve Tolley
Hilton: Cormac McCarthy
Oar House: Don Severance
Press Room: The New Mendicants; Robert Sarazin Blake and The Put It All Down In a Letter Show

GET THE CROWDS AT YOUR GIG

Want to get your show listed in the Music This Week? Let us know all about your upcoming show, comedy show, open mike night or multi-band event by sending all the information to **music@hippopress.com**. Send information by 9 a.m. on Friday to have the event considered for the next Thursday's paper.

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ENTERTAINMENT THIS WEEK
APRIL 25TH & 26TH IN THE LOUNGE



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SAT. APRIL 26TH
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NEXT WEEK
FRIDAY MAY 2ND • SQUELCH
SATURDAY MAY 3RD • MUGSY

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Red Door: Mike Swells
Rudi's: Mike Effenberger, Rob Gerry
Thirsty Moose: Jamsterdam

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Doubleshot Boston

Weare
Boondocks: Live Band

Sunday, April 27

Bedford
Copper Door: Steve Tolley

Concord
Hermanos: Live Jazz: Mike Morris, Hermanos 30th Birthday Celebration

Dover
Brickhouse: Live Jazz Brunch with Jim Dozet Trio
Cara: Irish Session w/ Carol Coronis & Ramona Connelly
Sonny's: Jazz w/Nick Mainella

Epsom
Circle 9: Kidney and Cancer Benefit Jamboree

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Joe McDonald

Manchester
British Beer Co.: Bloody Blues Brunch: Brickyard Blues
Jam Factory: Acoustic Concert w/Average Joel; Trent Larrabee; Phillip Gerekos; Paul Jamilkowski
Milly's: Early Rock Show w/ Kryptic Deception, Rite of Red / Late Hip Hop Show w/ Modefi
Shaskeen: Rap night, Industry night
Social 24: Sunday Funday Jam Sessions
Strange Brew: Howard Randall

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Portsmouth
British Beer Co.: Bloody Blues Brunch Series featuring Bees Deluxe
Dolphin Striker: Pete Peterson
Press Room: Christine Fawson Quartet
Red Door: Green Lion Crew
Rudi's: Jazz Brunch w/Mike Stockbridge

Monday, April 28

Concord
Hermanos: Live Jazz: John Franzosa

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Jam Night with Clark, David and Lowell Trio

Manchester
Fratello's: Rob Wolfe

Merrimack
Homestead: Doug Thompson

Newmarket
Stone Church: Stormy Mondays hosted by the Wild Eagles Blues Band

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Old School
Press Room: Nick Goumas
Red Door: Scott Cook, Milo Jones
Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, April 29

Concord
Hermanos: Jazz: Glenn Paladino

Dover
Fury's: Tim Theriault
Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester
Fratello's: Kim Riley
Milly's: Manchuka
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Miketon
Strange Brew: All Stars

Merrimack
Homestead: Paul Luff

Newmarket
Stone Church: Bluegrass Jam w/Dave Talmage

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Honky Tonk Tuesdays
Dolphin Striker: Dave Gerard
Press Room: Larry Garland Jazz Jam

Wednesday, April 30

Concord
Hermanos: Jazz: Glenn Paladino

Dover
Fury's: People Skills
Sonny's: Jazzputin

Gilford
Patrick's: Corey Brackett

Manchester
Crazy Camel: Jonny Friday
Fratello's: Drew Yount
Strange Brew: David Rousseau

Merrimack
Homestead: Amanda Cote
Pacific Fusion: Joe McDonald

Milford
Clark's Tavern: Chad LaMarsh

Nashua
Amsterdam: Chips N Dip
Killarney's: Kieran McNally
Wicked Twisted: Blues Band Jam

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Don Severance
Press Room: Old Time Dave Talmage
Red Door: Red On Red w/ Evaredy (Ladies Night)
Ri Ra: Great Bay Sailor
Rudi's: Solo Dimitri on Piano
Thirsty Moose: Shades of Rust

Weare
Boondocks: Blues Jam w/ Paul Spera, Junie Belanger & Mickey McGuire

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, April 24

Derry
Halligan Tavern: Sam Ike/Chris Timoney

Nashua
Fody's: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, April 25

Concord
NHTechnical Institute: Stephen Lynch

Manchester
Headliners: Gilbert Gottfried

Saturday, April 26

Dover
Cara: Paul D'Angelo

Manchester
Headliners: Dan Crohn
Shaskeen: Nick Lavallee Comedy Jam

Nashua
Arena: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Sunday, April 27

Rochester
Radloff's: Mike Murray (Deaf Comic)

Wed., April 30

Dover
Cara: Tip Jar Comedy w/ Jay Grove

Manchester
Murphy's: Laugh Free or Die Open Mic
Shaskeen: Alignon Mitra/Marial Cabral

Thursday, May 1

Derry
Halligan Tavern: Karl Zahn/ Julie Kitayama

Hudson
Soho: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, May 2

Newmarket
Stone Church: Comedy hosted by Pat Janssen

Saturday, May 3

Manchester
World Sports Grille: Ira Proctor

Nashua
Arena: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Pelham
Chunky's Pub: Derek Richards/Steve Scarfo/ Kennedy Richard

Wednesday, May 7

Dover
Cara: Tip Jar Comedy w/ Jay Grove

Manchester
Murphy's Taproom: Laugh Free or Die Open Mic
Shaskeen: Comedy Night

Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion at Meadowbrook 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org
Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., lowellsummermusic.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Road, Francestown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, prescottpark.org, 436-2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittemore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, whittcenter.com

- **Acoustic Jon Anderson - The Voice of Yes** Thu., April 24, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Grand Slambovians** Fri., April 25, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Sandra Bernhard in SandyLand** Fri., April 25, 8 p.m. Silver Center
- **Godsmack (Lisa Guyer Benefit)** Sat., April 26, 8 p.m. Palace Theatre
- **Pure Prairie League** Sat., April 26, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey
- **Engage Music Festival Featuring Big Sean** Sat., April 26, 8 p.m. Tsongas Center
- **Antigone Rising** Sat., April 26, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Open Mic Night Featuring Pesky J Nixon** Thu., May 1, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Hunter Hayes w/ Danielle Bradbery & Dan Shay** Fri., May 2, 7 p.m. Tsongas Center
- **The Weight** Fri., May 2, 7 p.m. Tupelo
- **Blue Öyster Cult** Sat., May 3, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey
- **Bon Jersey** Sat., May 3, 7 p.m. Rochester Opera House
- **Jon Pousette-Dart Band** Sat., May 3, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Winery Dogs** Tue., May 6, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Boz Scaggs** Wed., May 7, 8 p.m. Music Hall
- **Kris Delmhorst** Thu., May 8, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Colin Blunstone** Thu., May 8, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Foster The People** Thu., May 8, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Volbeat** Fri., May 9, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Rodney Crowell** Fri., May 9, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey
- **Fleetwood Mix (Mac tribute)** Fri., May 9, 7 p.m. Stockbridge Theatre
- **Mavericks** Sat., May 10, 7 p.m. Cap Center
- **Buckcherry** Sat., May 10, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Chris Trapper** Sat., May 10, 8 p.m. Music Hall
- **Motor City Fever** Sat., May 10, 7 p.m. Rochester Opera House
- **John Sebastian** Sat., May 10, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Jason Bonham** Tue., May. 13, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Jimmie Vaughn & Tilt-A-Whirl Band** Wed., May 14, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Comedy with Lou Ramey, Jimmy Walsh, and Andrea Henry** Fri., May 16, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Joe Bonamassa** Fri., May 16, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Juston McKinney** Sat., May 17, 7 p.m. Cap Center
- **Ann Sweeten** Sat., May 17, 7 p.m. Franklin Opera House
- **Howie Day** Sun., May 18, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Monkees** Thu., May 22, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Steel Panther** Fri., May 23, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Chad Perrone** Fri., May 23, 8 p.m. Tupelo

On sale this week

April 23 Zac Brown Band at Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion at Meadowbrook on Saturday, Aug. 16 (meadowbrook.net)
April 25 Eric Church w/ Dwight Yoakam and Brandy Clark at Verizon Wireless Arena on Thursday, Oct. 23 (ticketmaster.com)
April 25 Kings of Leon at Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion at Meadowbrook on Tuesday, Aug. 26 (meadowbrook.net)
April 25 Brian Regan at Capitol Center for the Arts on Thursday, Oct. 2 (ccanh.com)



LOCAL ROOTS

Founded in early 2009 by vocalist and rhythm guitarist Rocco DeRosa and guitarist/multi-instrumentalist Daniel King, The Naked Stills was born out of their mutual love for the pioneering folk, blues, and rock movements of the '60s and '70s. The group appears Saturday, April 26, at 8 p.m. at Tupelo Music Hall (2 Young Road, Londonderry 437-5100), opening for Antigone Rising. Americana UK called its 2012 album Cocheco a "keenly driven" throwback, "furnished with hints of blues, pop and Americana of the present day." Tickets $25 at tupelohall.com.

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SIGNS OF LIFE

Quotes are from *North America*, by Anthony Trollope, born April 24, 1815.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *Housekeeping is not popular with young married people in America, and there are various reasons why this should be so.* It's time for a little spring cleaning, including some long-neglected areas.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Gravy is not an institution at American hotels, but grease has taken its place. It is palpable, undisguised grease, floating in rivers,—not grease caused by accidental bad cookery, but grease on purpose. A beef-steak is not a beef-steak unless a quarter of a pound of butter be added to it. Those horrid little dishes!* Avoid grease on purpose.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *If a stranger visit Manchester with the object of seeing what sort of place Manchester is, he must visit the cotton mills and printing establishments, though he may have no taste for cotton and no knowledge on the subject of calicoes.* It's a good week for getting to know your surroundings.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *The greatest luxury at an English inn is one's tea, one's fire, and one's book. ... I love to have my tea-cup emptied and filled with gradual pauses, so that time for oblivion may accrue, and no exact record be taken.* You should spend some time relaxing, with your cellphone nowhere near you.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *To me Newport could never be a place charming by reason of its own charms. That it is a very pleasant place when it is full of people and the people are in spirits and happy, I do not doubt. But then the visitors would bring, as far as I am concerned, the pleasantness with them.* Bring pleasantness with you.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *One is led to presume that no American editor has any plan in the composition of his newspaper. I never know whether I have as yet got to the very heart's core of the daily journal, or whether I am still to go on searching for that heart's core.* Get straight to the point.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *I had an indefinite idea that [the White Mountains] formed an intermediate stage between the Rocky Mountains and the Alleghenies, and that they were inhabited either by Mormons, Indians, or simply by black bears.* Not everyone is as familiar with your backyard as you are; do what you can to make guests comfortable.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *I know nothing, for instance, on the Rhine equal to the view from Mount Willard, down the mountain pass called the Notch.* You will find a nice view nearby.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *And as we are always tempted to approve of that which we like, and to think that that which is good to us is good altogether, we — the refined gentlemen and ladies of England I mean — are very apt to prefer the hat-touchers to those who are not hat-touchers.* Be open to friendship with someone whose customs differ.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *Beacon Street and Boston Common are very pleasant. Excellent houses there are, and large churches, and enormous hotels; but of such things as these a man can write nothing that is worth the reading. The traveller who desires to tell his experience of North America must write of people rather than of things.* Focus on the people around you.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *Speaking of New York as a traveller I have two faults to find with it. In the first place there is nothing to see; and in the second place there is no mode of getting about to see anything.* Go where there's something to see.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *I made up my mind that a Yankee Puritan can be an uncommonly pleasant fellow. I wish that some of them did not dine so early; for when a man sits down at half-past two, that keeping up of the after-dinner recreations till bedtime becomes hard work.* It's a good week for after-dinner recreations.

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	3		7		8		5	
		1				8		
	2						1	
		9	2		4	3		
		7				2		
		8	9		6	1		
	5						4	
		6				5		
	9		1		2		6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/24

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SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. *Last week's puzzle answers are below*

4/17

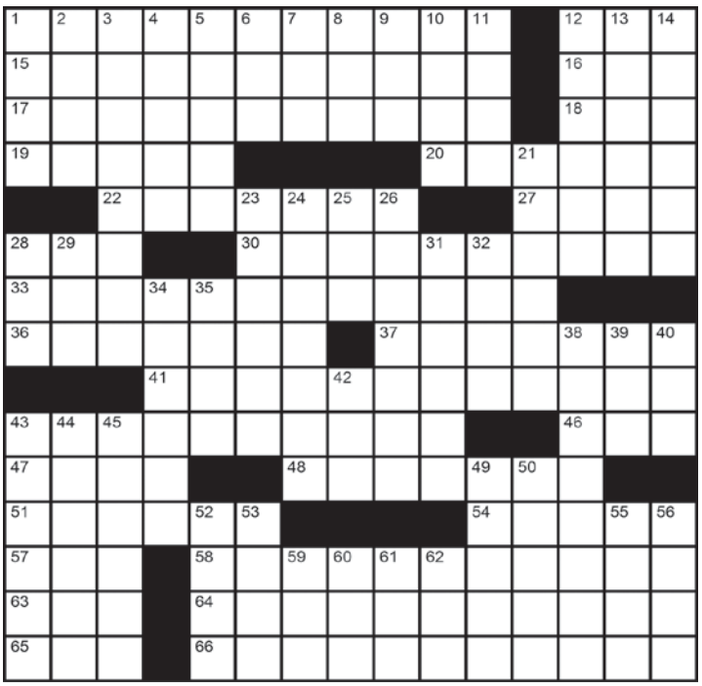
3	7	6	1	9	4	8	2	5
4	8	1	2	5	6	9	7	3
2	9	5	8	7	3	6	4	1
6	5	3	9	2	7	4	1	8
7	1	9	6	4	8	5	3	2
8	2	4	3	1	5	7	6	9
1	4	7	5	8	2	3	9	6
5	6	2	4	3	9	1	8	7
9	3	8	7	6	1	2	5	4

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Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/17

"Weave Only Just Begun" — freestyle and challenging

Across

1 Nutty person (and new OED entry of 2014)
12 Talk freely
15 Ziti and such
16 AP competitor
17 Genre for "The Breakfast Club" or "A Catcher in the Rye"
18 Cornelius of "Soul Train"
19 People and language in Clint Eastwood's "Gran Torino"
20 Waiting for a real person, maybe
22 "Imagine that!"
27 ___ Popken (plus-size clothing retailer; hidden in PULLABLE)
28 Abu Dhabi's loc.
30 Secretly schemed against
33 Ice cream shop item
36 Lot for Londoners
37 Nut
41 Away from the workplace for good
43 Magician Harry, Sr. or Harry, Jr.
46 Designation ditched after smoking bans
47 Robert Indiana stamp insignia
48 Did some dirty dancing
51 Wipes clean
54 "Does that ring ___?"
57 Like a new coat, at first?
58 Acknowledges, with "to"
63 ___ heartbeat
64 Lacking feeling
65 Roofing sealant
66 1955 hit about coal mining



Down

1 Suffix after sand or Man
2 Director Egoyan
3 Army surplus store stuff
4 Kevin who played Dave
5 1980s teammate of Bird and McHale
6 Former UN Secretary General ___ Hammarskjöld
7 "Kiss, Kiss, Kiss" singer
8 Switch status
9 1950 film noir classic
10 Ad image
11 Genesis locale
12 Ballet star Nureyev
13 Theater with a log rubbed for good luck
14 Odist with a type of ode named for him
21 "Sons of Anarchy" star Charlie
23 Noises from chopper blades
24 Old-school comedian Buddy
25 Bouncers ask for them
26 Tourist activity of declining popularity?
28 Bar code
29 Pie ___ mode
31 Musician on the road
32 "Gas Food Lodging" actress Skye
34 Rack contents
35 Tetra's home
38 Looked after
39 Particle suffix, in physics
40 Warehouse qty.
42 AAA job
43 Messed up big-time
44 John Bobbitt's ex-wife
45 2009 film set on the planet Pandora
49 Part of DKNY
50 Guy who was all thumbs?
52 Shield bearing Medusa's head: var.
53 Apple tech support?
55 Attachment on property
56 Fords produced until 1991
59 ___ populi
60 Sinus specialist, for short
61 "___ Drives Me Crazy" (1989 #1 hit)
62 Bee chaser?

4/17

P	A	P	I			R	A	R	E		S	C	U	D
A	L	A	N		M	O	C	H	A		C	A	N	E
C	O	R	K		A	B	H	O	R	S	O	N	I	C
T	E	D		K	N	E	E			P	R	Y	O	R
		O	B	E	Y	S		B	A	R	N	O	N	E
H	E	N	R	Y			P	O	S	E		U	S	E
A	L	M	O	S	T	Z	O	N	K	E	D			
M	I	E	N		R	U	P	E	E		A	N	D	Y
			C	H	I	M	P	S	W	O	L	F	E	D
S	A	P		A	B	B	Y			G	A	L	E	S
T	R	I	P	L	E	A		S	O	L	I	D		
A	L	G	A	E			G	A	P	E		R	O	W
B	E	G	I	N	P	O	L	K	A		B	A	B	A
L	E	E	R		C	R	U	E	L		U	F	O	S
E	N	D	S		S	E	E	S			S	T	E	P

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Alter egos

First-term U.S. Rep. Ted Yoho of Florida is already among the House's most conservative members, but his Republican primary challenger claims to be even more so but with a quixotic, longtime hobby as a costumed, role-playing "gamer." Challenger Jake Rush (in his day job, a lawyer) portrays supernatural characters as a prominent member of the national Mind's Eye Society and Florida's Covenant of the Poisoned Absinthe, including a vampire named "Chazz Darling," who, according to a Yahoo message board, once left an explicit, body-parts-bloodying threat to a role-player with whom he had been feuding. (The Florida political report SaintPetersBlog broke the story and was quickly criticized, less by Rush's political defenders than by the indignant "cosplay" community, feeling mocked.)

Government in action

Formally asking a sweetheart to "please be my (boyfriend/girlfriend)" is said to be a traditional romantic milestone in Japanese relationships, and the town of Nagareyama in Chiba Prefecture now provides a government document to commemorate that big step (for a filing fee, of course). In fact, according to the news site RocketNews24.com, since only one party need file the document, the town hopes the form will become a strategic step to declare one's love without the need for messy, face-to-face, rejection-risking confrontation (and also become a robust municipal-revenue producer).

Great art!

British artist Millie Brown, 27, profiled in January in London's Daily Mail, creates Jackson Pollock-style canvases by vomiting on them after ingesting colored soy milk. Brown (whose work hangs in London's Ripley's Believe It or Not! showcase) said she fasts for two days prior to public performances and, as the show starts, times her ingestions so that the proper hues don't prematurely mix in her stomach. Her appearance, at work, in a Lady Gaga music video brought her a somewhat larger audience. Said the understated Brown, "I am able to challenge people's perceptions of beauty."

Police report

• Although Douglas Lydic, 29, escaped from a patrol car in December in Commodore, Pa., while handcuffed (and was soon re-captured), prosecutors declined to charge him with fleeing since he was merely being "detained" at the time. However, they did charge Lydic with theft of the handcuffs.

• Petty and Tacky: Dustin Bell, 25, wearing a police officer's badge that had been stolen from the Sand Springs, Okla., department, apparently only casually considered how to wield his newly acquired "authority." He was arrested in April after asking at a Tulsa tanning salon for a law-enforcement discount to get a $34 session for $10.

• Four Maine State Police troopers rushed to a home in the town of China in January, alarmed by 911 calls about an assault in progress (according to neighbors who reported raucous screaming). Trooper Thomas Bureau found that the suspected "crime scene" was the home of a pig farmer, who showed troopers the pen out back in which a male had been placed with five sows "in heat" and that the squealing (either by the sows or the beleaguered male) was not unusual.

• Michael Moore, 61, who had left home in a huff on March 4 after his wife accused him of excessive drinking, was arrested later that night in Hobe Sound, Fla., after more drinking at a bar. He suggested to police that he knew he was drunk, but had taken the wheel to try to "drive it off."

• Bryan Hill, 24, was arrested in Indianapolis in March, passed out in the driver's seat of his car at 4 a.m. wearing only a T-shirt, underwear and one sock. The officer said Hill "did have pants on, but they were on his arms. Both arms were inserted into the legs of his jeans."

New frontiers in rehab

• Japan's largest, most influential organized-crime syndicate, the Yamaguchi-gumi, recently launched an extensive anti-drug, humanitarian campaign with a website and folk-song-like ballad extolling the group's civic-mindedness backing up photographs of earnest, joyful men at work in their communities. (2) Italy's former premier, Silvio Berlusconi, booted out by voters last year after he finally embarrassed them (and who is awaiting sentencing for tax evasion and trial for bribery), began a comeback in March by becoming the face of a dog-and-cat rescue program. "Dogs and cats," he assured supporters, "will help (the Forza Italia party) win the European elections."

Redneck chronicles

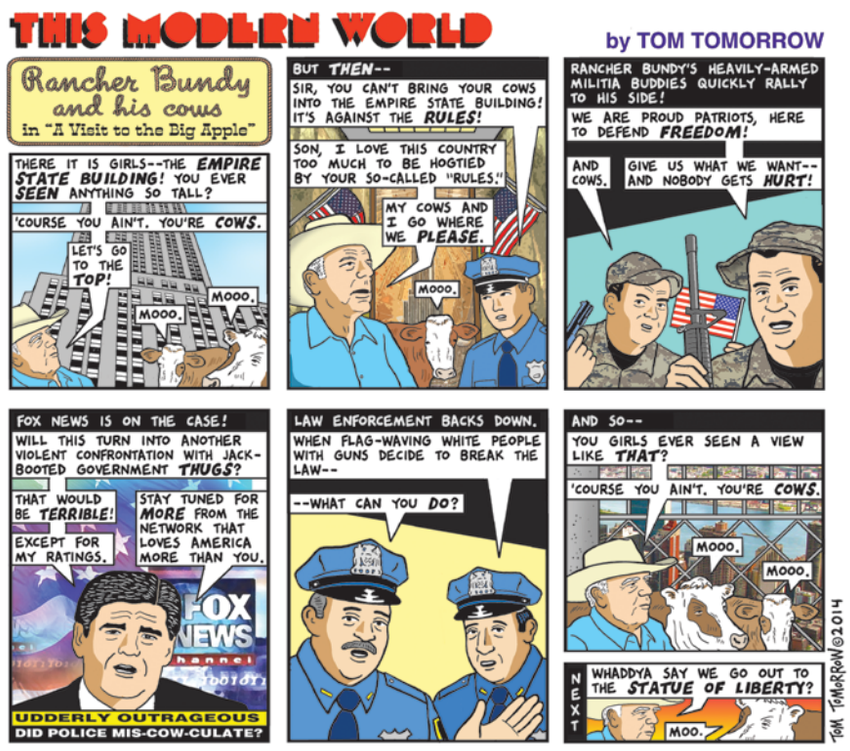
In April, Louisiana state senators rejected Sen. Elbert Guillory's over-the-top campaigning to make "chicken boxing" legitimate, dismissing his proposed bill and leaving the "sport" banned along with cockfighting. The proposed law would still have permitted sharp spurs on fighting roosters' legs, but required promoters to cover them with rubber gloves. Guillory had pleaded with colleagues, "(There would be no) blood ... no knives ... no cruelty ... no abuse," as he futilely held up pairs of the tiny "chicken boxing" gloves.

Least competent criminals

• Mr. Yafait Tadesse was sentenced in federal court in March to a year in jail for filing fraudulent tax returns for certain "Wal-Mart employees," from fictitious addresses, for 2012 and 2013. Among the fake returns that Tadesse apparently failed to double-check was that of supposed Georgia Wal-Mart employee "Eric Holder," the U.S. attorney general.

• Ryan Trembly, 29, was charged with trying (futilely) to rob Bubbles Hair Salon in Annapolis, Md., in April. Explained the salon's receptionist, "He was like, 'Give me all your money,' and I said, 'Not today!' Who tries to rob a salon?" Trembly left, to the sound of her laughter, and was picked up at his mother's house.

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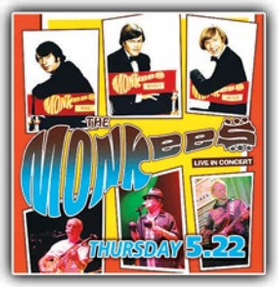
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